FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

6 JANUARY 1984

Lebanon

Security Plan — All parties concerned, including Syria, have approved the draft security plan and final details may be settled by Saudi envoy Rafiq al-Hariri, who is currently in Damascus, along with Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt and Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri, Radio Monte Carlo reported. Beirut radio confirmed earlier that Al-Hariri had lef' Beirut for Damascus to complete talks with Syrian officials on the implementation of the security plan.

The plan will also be discussed by the Lebanese, Syrian, and Saudi foreign ministers when they meet in Riyadh on 8 January for talks on national reconciliation, Jidda radio noted.

Meanwhile, in remarks to the Press Association Council reported by Beirut radio, President Amin al-Jumayyil said that if the government succeeds in implementing the security plan, it will follow this up with other measures aimed at checking anarchy. As for the national dialogue, Al-Jumayyil said he is "still open" to the establishment of a national unity government and to "all the proposed reforms," but "all these require a minimum amount of response." He regretted that "many stances have been inspired from outside the Lebanese framework."

Military/Security Situation — Clashes continued on the "traditional" combat axes in the mountains southeast of the capital and in the Al-Kharrub district on the night of 5-6 January although the fighting later subsided, Beirut radio reported. Gunmen from rival factions also clashed in Tripoli, the radio noted. In Damascus Palestinian sources cited by QNA denied that Syria has ordered the Al-Yarmuk and Hittin brigades of the Palestine Liberation Army out of Lebanon.

PLO Affairs

The PLO Executive Committee began closed sessions in Tunis attended by 9 of the 14 committee members and presided over by Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, Radio Monte Carlo reported. KUNA said that a lack of a two-thirds quorum delayed a formal session.

Meanwhile, Baghdad Voice of PLO and San'a' Voice of Palestine radios broadcast the text of the 4 January Fatah Central Committee statement. While enumerating 'Arafat's justifications for his visit to Cairo, the statement said the Central Committee considers the visit a personal decision by 'Arafat and an "organizational violation" of Fatah decisionmaking processes.

Egypt

Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has sent urgent messages to the Israeli prime minister, Secretary of State Shultz, the UN secretary general, and the EC chairman protesting the application of Israeli law in the occupied Arab territories, MENA reported. 'Ali said Egypt believes that the application of "some Israeli laws in some cases" in the West Bank is a violation of the Geneva agreements, the UN Charter, UN Resolution 242, and the "framework" of the Egyptian-Israeli peace agreement.

Tunisia

The government has rescinded the price increases on bread and certain other foodstuffs, KUNA reported. Earlier, Tunis police issued a statement urging calm and assuring citizens there should be no cause for anxiety when gunfire is heard because "shots fall within the framework of precautionary measures necessitated by the state of emergency," Tunis radio reported. Paris radio said soldiers fired into the air to deter demonstrators "attacking" the largest supermarket in Tunis. The latest unofficial estimate of casualties resulting from the disturbances is 57 dead and 400 injured, the radio noted.

Meanwhile, in an official statement broadcast by Tunis radio, the information minister announced that the authorities have arrested a "large number" of rioters and looters. The government is taking measures to provide "just compensation" for the needy, he stressed, and has reached a preliminary agreement with the General Federation of Labor over compensation for workers. The radio also carried a statement by the National Assembly denouncing acts of "chaos, violence, and corruption" and expressing full support for the president's emergency measures.

Syria

Damascus television said King Husayn's measures to facilitate elections in both banks fall "within the framework of the Jordanian regime's assigned role" in the Reagan plan and the Camp David accords and herald its retreat from the 1974 Rabat summit resolutions that declared the PLO the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam discussed the current Arab situation with visiting Libyan Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud as President Hafiz al-Asad held talks with Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, who delivered a message on the forthcoming Islamic summit from President 'Ali Khamene'i, according to Damascus television and radio.

FBIS DAILY REPORT
CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 004 *6 January 1984*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Text of Fatah Central Committee Statement *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 1
PLO Executive Committee Begins Closed Sessions ..... A 4
PNC Meeting in February *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... A 4
AFP Reports Lack of Quorum ..... A 4
'Arafat Denies Idea of Government-in-Exile *[Cairo AL-MUSAWWAR]* ..... A 4
Saudi Magazine on Egyptian-'Arafat Relations *[London AL-MAJALLAH]* ..... A 4
Egypt Conveys 'Arafat Message to Security Council *[MENA]* ..... A 5
Palestinian Forces To Remain in Lebanon *[QNA]* ..... A 5
Salah Khalaf Meets With 3-Member Delegation *[KUNA]* ..... A 5

ARABIAN PENINSULA

OMAN

Official Talks With Sudanese Begin 5 Jan ..... C 1
Iraqi Envoy Presents Credentials to Sultan Qabus ..... C 1

PDRY

PFLP Official Departs After Brief Visit ..... C 1

SAUDI ARABIA

Upcoming Meeting With Lebanon, Syria Viewed ..... C 1
Saudi-Syrian Efforts in Lebanon Examined ..... C 1
'UKAZ Notes Reagan Remarks on Al-Asad Meeting ..... C 2

YAR

President Receives PDRY Chairman's Message ..... C 2

EGYPT

Application of Israeli Law to West Bank Condemned ..... D 1
More on Condemnation ..... D 1
'Ali Comments on 4 Jan Israeli Raid in Lebanon ..... D 1
'Ali Comments on Fatah Central Committee Statement ..... D 1
'Ali Meets With Swedish Deputy Foreign Minister ..... D 1
Ash-Sharif Reports on 4 Jan Cabinet Meeting ..... D 1
Ghali Statement Upon Leaving for 9-Day Tour ..... D 2
2-Day Visit to France ..... D 2
AL-AHRAM Assesses Mubarak-'Arafat Meeting *[30 Dec]* ..... D 2
Briefs: Cooperation Agreement With Romania ..... D 4
Chadian Ambassadors

IRAQ

INA Report on Saddam Husayn's Army Day Speech ..... E 1
Armed Forces General Command Communique No 1,332 ..... E 1
MENA Cites Ramadan Interview by Cairo Paper ..... E 1

JORDAN

AD-DUSTUR: Reagan Intends To Amend Peace Plan *[5 Jan]* ..... F 1
King Husayn Addresses Message to NCC Speaker ..... F 1
Royal Decree on 6 Senate Members' Resignation ..... F 1
Prince Hasan Receives U.S. Visitors ..... F 1
Information Minister's Remarks ..... F 1
AD-DUSTUR on Fatah Central Committee Statement ..... F 2

LEBANON

Al-Jumayyil Meets With Press Association Council ..... G 1
Monte Carlo on Security Plan, Junblatt Remarks ..... G 3
Security Situation in Beirut, Tripoli Updated ..... G 3
Violent Clashes Resume in Tripoli 6 Jan ..... G 4
IDF Stop Traffic to Sidon, Lift Cordon ..... G 4
Libya's Jallud To Arrive in Beirut 7 Jan ..... G 4

SYRIA

Al-Asad Receives Iranian Envoy, Message ..... H 1
More on Meeting ..... H 1
Libya's Jallud Arrives, Holds Talks 5 Jan ..... H 1
Meets With George Habash *[Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland]* ..... H 1
Meets With PFLP-GC Leaders *[Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland]* ..... H 1
U.S. Congressional Delegation Arrives 5 Jan ..... H 1
Sees Khaddan ..... H 1
Az-Zu'bi Receives Delegation ..... H 1
Damascus Reports Jordan's Parliamentary Changes ..... H 1
Part of 'Assigned Role' ..... H 1
AL-BA'TH on 'Plot' ..... H 2
TISHRIN: U.S. 'Hostile Posture' Should Change ..... H 2
TISHRIN Urges Reagan to Demonstrate Goodwill *[29 Dec]* ..... H 3
Commentary on Position of 'Collaborating Minority' ..... H 3
Communist Party on U.S.-Israeli 'Aggression' ..... H 4
Iraqi CP Condemns Iraqi-Kurdish Agreement ..... H 4

ISRAEL

Arens Accepts 9-Percent Ministry Budget Cut ..... I 1
Calls Cuts 'Real, Painful' ..... I 1
Radio Panel Discusses Government Economic Crisis ..... I 1
Economic Committee Meets, No Decisions Reported ..... I 2
POST Poll Shows Alignment Increase Over Likud *[6 Jan]* ..... I 2
Chief of Staff Levi Meets Senator Tower ..... I 2
Arens Discusses Egyptian Buildup With Tower *[MA'ARIV 6 Jan]* ..... I 2
Radio Reports 'Ali Message, Jordanian Elections ..... I 3
Shamir 'Pragmatic' on UNIFIL Security Role *[THE JERUSALEM POST 6 Jan]* ..... I 3
Rosenne, Shultz Discuss Lebanon Security Plan ..... I 4
IDF Patrol Near Sidon Fired At; No Casualties ..... I 4
Press on Lebanese Agreement, Economic Situation ..... I 4
MA'ARIV Analyzes Impact of Air Strikes *[5 Jan]* ..... I 4
Israeli Arabs 'Disappointed' With Shamir Meeting *['AL HAMISHMAR 6 Jan]* ..... I 6
Karp on State of Law Enforcement in West Bank *[MA'ARIV 5 Jan]* ..... I 6
New Monthly Covers West Bank Opinions *[DAVAR 5 Jan]* ..... I 6
West Bank Journalist Forbidden Exit to Jordan ..... I 7
An-Najah Student Union Reacts to Arens Remarks ..... I 7
Three Settlement Cells Established in Gaza ..... I 7
Work Begins at North Gaza Settlement Site ..... I 7
DAVAR on 'Creeping Annexation' *[4 Jan]* ..... I 8

Jordanian Parliament Members Leave For Jordan ..... I 8
Gazans Extradited From Egypt for Illegal Crossing ..... I 9
Major Sa'd Haddad Released From Hospital ..... I 9
Peres Comments on Haddad Military Reinstatement ..... I 9
Rabbi Kahana Escapes Police Interrogators ..... I 9

NORTH AFRICA

LIBYA

Political Editor on 'Shameful' Egyptian Policies ..... Q 1
Maltese Prime Minister Concludes Visit ..... Q 1
Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Guests ..... Q 1
Maltese Visitors Depart ..... Q 1
Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Moroccan King's Adviser ..... Q 1

MOROCCO

Hassan Meets Klibi on Summit Preparations ..... Q 1

SUDAN

Mirghani To Convey Numayri's Message to Qabus ..... Q 2

TUNISIA

President Bourguiba Rescinds Bread Price Hike *[KUNA]* ..... Q 2
President Meets With Mzali; Assembly To Convene ..... Q 2
Further Reportage on Aftermath of Violence ..... Q 2
Situation Described as Calm ..... Q 2
Safaqis Region Called Normal ..... Q 2
National Assembly Issues Statement ..... Q 2
Information Minister Makes Statement ..... Q 2
Paris Radio Correspondent Arrested in Tunis *[Paris]* ..... Q 3
Embassy Reportedly To Be Opened in YAR *[SPA]* ..... Q 3

CENTRAL AFRICA

CHAD

Libya, USSR Seen Attempting To Thwart OAU Meeting ..... S 1

GABON

Andreotti Ends Visit, Announces Aid Program ..... S 1

WEST AFRICA

LIBERIA

All Envoys Accredited to Europe To Meet ..... T 1
'Possibility' of Reducing Embassies Studied ..... T 1
Trial of Alleged Plotters Continues ..... T 1
Tribunal Denies Defense Motion ..... T 1

NIGERIA

Buhari Grants Press Conference 5 January ..... T 1
AFP Gives Names of SMC Members, Others ..... T 5
NAN Provides Names of Military Governors ..... T 5
Army Captain Detained Over Brigadier's Death ..... T 5

Reportage on Conditions in Federation's States ..... T 6
Anambra Governor Returning ..... T 6
Former Gongola Governors Report ..... T 6
Soldiers 'Control' Sales in Imo ..... T 6
Oyo Governor Addresses Officials ..... T 6

SENEGAL

Italian Foreign Minister Arrives in Dakar ..... T 6

UPPER VOLTA

Tribunal Acquits, Releases Sangouele Lamizana ..... T 7

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

President Addresses Ceremony for Diplomatic Corps ..... U 1
FAPLA Reports 33 UNITA Dead in 16-23 Dec Actions ..... U 2
Portuguese Reaction to Oil Exclusion Cited ..... U 2
Soviet, Hungarian Ambassadors Present Credentials ..... U 2

MOZAMBIQUE

President Machel Delivers New Year's Address ..... U 3
Communique Condemns RSA Angola Incursion ..... U 7
AIM Reports 5 Killed by 'Bandits' in Gaza ..... U 7
MNR Issues Communique on 'Red Summer' Campaign *[Voice of Mozambique National Resistance]* ..... U 7

NAMIBIA

SWAPO's Manning Denies RSA Bombing Claims *[Umtata Capital Radio]* ..... U 8

SOUTH AFRICA

Foreign Minister Botha Responds to Soviet Demands ..... U 9
UN Debate on RSA Angolan Incursion Viewed ..... U 9
Ministry Declines Comment ..... U 10
Three SADF Men Killed in Anti-SWAPO Operations ..... U 10
UDF Raps Labor Party Decision on Constitution *[Umtata Capital Radio]* ..... U 10

ZAMBIA

Angola's Da Moura Gives Kaunda Dos Santos Message ..... U 10

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Reacts to New Nigerian Government *[NAN]* ..... U 10
Ian Smith on Intimidation of RF Party Officials *[Umtata Capital Radio]* ..... U 11

Text of Fatah Central Committee Statement

JN051900 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1630 GMT 5 Jan 84

["Text" of statement issued by Fatah Central Committee in Tunis on 4 January — read by announcer]

[Text] The Fatah Central Committee met in Tunis from 31 December 1983 to 4 January 1984. The committee discussed the crux and ramifications of the plot which the Syrian and Libyan regimes and their Palestinian agents have been concocting over the past 7 months, particularly the aggression against the Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps and the city of Tripoli, and their political and military results. The Central Committee also discussed arrangements and measures related to facing the requirements of the phase that will follow the departure from Tripoli.

The committee discussed Brother Abu 'Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat's] visit to Cairo and issued the following statement:

1. The Tripoli Battle and the Plot Against the PLO and Fatah

Following the 1982 battle of heroism and steadfastness in Lebanon, the Fatah movement faced a major battle against it as well as against the PLO. This battle took the form of a treacherous and treasonous rebellion that was planned by the Syrian and Libyan regimes and certain spiteful groups of agents and mercenaries in the Palestinian arena under false slogans and obscurantist statements. These groups wanted to infiltrate [the Palestinian leadership] and strike at the achievements our people have realized since the beginning of their revolution in 1965. They wanted to strike at independent Palestinian decisionmaking with the aim of containing the Palestinian revolution and imposing tutelage and trusteeship on our people, organization, and movement; on our decisionmaking; on our people's struggle; and on our national, pan-Arab, and political identity.

The tragedy reached its climax when these agents of the Syrian and Libyan intelligence departments ignited the clashes in Al-Biqa', Ba'labakk, and in all the places where our forces are present on Lebanese territory in order to distort the image of the Palestinian revolution and the people's struggle before the Arab and world public opinion. They aimed to strike at the legitimate Palestinian struggle by stressing that the plot was an inter-Palestinian dispute.

Our revolution used all means available to it in trying to avoid these battles. It used its Arab, international, and friendly contacts with the aim of avoiding confrontation and restoring the normal situation in which a broad front could be established in Lebanon among Syria, the Lebanese Nationalist Forces, and the Palestinian revolution. However, our efforts always faced the solid wall of the plotters, who did not want an effective PLO which would reject the plot and adhere to the principle of independent Palestinian national decisionmaking.

During the battles in the Lebanese mountain, our forces there, and subsequently in Al-Biqa', were forced to withdraw northward under threat of attack in which all kinds of weapons would be used. No sooner had our fighters settled in their new position than a new phase of the plot began. Aggression was committed against Nahr al-Barid, Al-Baddawi, and Tripoli. Artillery and rocket fire was mounted against our people in the camps and against the heroic city of Tripoli. In its firepower and in the manner in which it was executed, the shelling was more violent than the Zionist forces' invasion of Beirut and the Palestinian people's camps in Lebanon.

This stabbed all our people's values in the back. Our people were terrified not only because of their immense concern for the Palestinian cause but because of their concern about all of the Arab nation's cultural and struggle values throughout history.

The plot continued and the Palestinian revolution was besieged by Syrian and Libyan forces and their agents from the land, and by the Zionist forces from the sea and the air. All this took place amid the silence of the Arabs and of our friends. The entire world was surprised and bewildered.

The plot went beyond all reasonable standards. furthermore, the Syrian and Libyan stand met with the U.S. and Zionist stand in their attempt to prevent the Fatah leadership and fighters from leaving Tripoli alive. When the Palestinian withdrawal was delayed due to the Zionist siege and shelling, Al-Qadhdhafi and his agents threatened to resume their military attacks if the Fatah leadership and the Palestinian revolution forces did not leave Tripoli within 48 hours. The aim was to destroy these forces.

In view of the bitter situation and Arab impotence in stopping the fighting, we were forced to obtain a UN Security Council resolution to stop the fighting in the Tripoli area and in the two camps. We succeeded in obtaining this resolution with the help of our friends, especially France. Regrettably, we would like to note the absence of a timely Arab move to promote our efforts. When France offered to militarily escort the Palestinian fighters out of Tripoli because of its commitment to implementing the Security Council resolution, it did not find from the Arab states which it had contacted any response in the form of a symbolic contribution to protecting the ships carrying Palestinian fighters. Only Egyptian naval forces helped the French forces from a certain point in the Mediterranean Sea until the ships reached their final destination.

In light of these tragic incidents, the Palestinian people, their union, municipal, and popular organizations inside the occupied homeland, the diaspora, and all the camps stood as one man not only because of their bitter feelings toward what had taken and what is taking place, but also to offer what they possess in order to safeguard the Palestinian revolution, the PLO, the Fatah movement, and the free Palestinian will so as to maintain the sanctity of the Palestinian people's struggle, the dignity and legitimacy of their leadership, and the continuity and independence of Palestinian decisionmaking and eventually achieve with the heroes of the Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid camps and the city of Tripoli the liberation of the Palestinian will from the vicious movement that was imposed on the PLO and the Palestinian national decision in Tripoli.

This battle has revealed all the worst in the Palestinian and Arab arenas and exposed all those who agreed to join the line that is hostile to their people and issue and to be used as tools to implement the plot against their issue. The battle of Tripoli was the end of the road and the beginning of a new road whose line and features will be drawn up by the Palestinian leadership in the Fatah movement and the PLO in order to answer the big question: What comes after Tripoli on the military, political, organizational, and information levels? These matters are the agenda of our continued meetings.

2. The Cairo Visit

The Fatah Central Committee was surprised at Brother Abu 'Ammar's visit to Cairo. The committee said in its first statement that it opposed this visit. It issued its second statement and then waited for Abu 'Ammar's return to issue its final statement. The Fatah Central Committee contacted all the sides and regional offices in order to put the visit in the proper light so that the evaluation of the visit and the determination of the stand toward it could be made on the basis of right or wrong, and not through the accusations of the Syrian and Libyan media.

In the presence of Brother Abu 'Ammar, the Fatah Central Committee discussed in detail the visit, its causes, and its results after it had listened to Brother Abu Ammar's explanation and evaluation of it. In the report that he read to the Fatah Central Committee, Abu 'Ammar stressed the following points:

1. He believes that this visit is a disruption of the Camp David accords and not an entry into them or their course.

2. Egypt's return to the Arab nation is not confined to Egyptian efforts; it also requires an Arab effort to create the opportunity in this regard.

3. Egypt's return to the Arab nation deserves such a visit for the sake of the Egyptian people and their sacrifices for the Arab nation's battles. Consequently, the visit is not a reaction to the bitterness resulting from the stand of the Libyan and Syrian regimes.

4. The visit did not result in any political agreement. During the visit, no discussion that would disrupt the political and organizational decisons of the PNC or the Fatah movement took place. 'Arafat explained to the Egyptian president the PLO's stand which rejects autonomy that is included in the Camp David accords and President Reagan's plan because of their contradication with the PNC and the Fes summit resolutions. 'Arafat also pointed to what it is taking place in terms of Judaization in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and means to confront this Judaization.

5. As for Jordan, the talks were based on the PNC and the Fes summit resolutions, including the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

6. The talks also dealt with the recent battles in Tripoli, the conspiracy aimed at the Palestinian revolution throughout the past months, and the silence of the majority of the Arab regimes.

7. Brother Abu 'Ammar pointed out that he bears the responsibility for the visit in front of the legitimate institutions of the Fatah movement and the PLO and that he abides by their resolution, given that the visit was a personal initiative based on personal judgment.

The Central Committee discussed this report during the past few days, and during its discussions and resolutions it put a special emphasis on the unity of the Palestinian arena and the Arab position which, despite its meagerness, supported us against the conspracy. All of this took place on the basis of the militant unity that our people are practicing inside and outside the occupied land and in accordance with the basis of preserving Palestinian legitimacy and Palestinian strategy represented in the restoration of our people's national rights. Proceeding from this principle stemming from our commitment and responsibility, the Central Committee made the following decisions:

1. The Central Committee confirms its pride in the position of our masses inside and outside our occupied homeland and in all the camps, a position that was taken bravely and faithfully to protect the Palestinian revolution and safeguard its independent and national Palestinian decisionmaking as well as to confornt and reject the conspiracy and tools of the Syrian and Libyan regimes against the Palestinian revolution's unity, independence, and accomplishments and the continuation of our people's struggle.

2. The Central Committee hails the Syrian people and the Syrian nationalist forces who did not accept the Syrian regime's position or participate in it. It hails the Palestinian Liberation Army's fighters who refused to fight and who joined the revolution's ranks. It also hails the Palestinian forces and organziations that supported independent and national Palestinian decisionmaking and fought on our side in defense of it.

3. The qualitative and quantitative escalation of our armed struggle is one of the primary and basic militant missions in the coming stage which is aimed at confronting the escalation of the Zionist arrogance and the continued campaigns of tyranny and repression against our people. The conspiracy that resulted in the removal of the Palestinian revolution's fighters from the lines of contact with the enemy will not prevent our revolution from continuing its armed struggle, a fact that places a special responsibility on the Central Committee to exert every effort to step up armed struggle with all means and capabilities.

4. The Central Committee confirms its complete rejection of the Syrian and Libyan policy against our people and cause through plotting against the PLO, independent and national Palestinian decisionmaking, and using weapons against our people and forces. We look forward to an Arab position that will set matters right, because any Arab role on the Palestine question can never be separated from the cause's people and leadership.

5. The Central Committee considers all the voices of the organizations which raised arms, shed Palestinian blood, and bombed the camps of the north and the city of Tripoli to be criminal voices that will never be able to exploit the visit to cover their crimes.

6. The Central Committee confirms its full adherence to the PNC resolutions. It will consider any violation of them rejected by Palestinian legitimacy.

7. The Central Committee confirms its rejection of all plans that do not recognize our people's right to return home, determine their destiny, and establish their own independent Palestinian state on their national soil. This means the rejection of the Reagan initiative and the autonomy for which the Camp David accords provide.

8. The Central Committee rejects the Israeli-Lebanese agreement and considers it a continuation of the method of the capitulatory settlement in the region and submission to the theory of the forcible imposition of the U.S.-Israeli peace.

9. The Central Committee confirms its adherence to our independent and national Palestinian decisionmaking, for which we fought and which we defended in Al-Biqa', Tripoli, and the Palestinian camps and during the previous battles and struggle.

10. The Central Committee will abide by the PLO political and organizational prorgam as announced by the PNC and also by the Fes Summit resolutions. All of these should be the basis of any Arab and international move. The Central Committee also asserts that any solution that does not include our people's right to return, to determine their destiny, and to set up their independent Palestinian state on their national soil through the PLO's efforts is a rejected solution.

11. The Central Committee rejects the idea of an alternative homeland in Jordan and considers it to be a Zionist enemy cover to annex the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The Central Committee considers the Zionist enemy's policy of transferring the Palestinian camps in the occupied homeland to the Jordan valley to be part of this plot.

12. The Central Committee believes that the solution of Arab differences and the realization of Arab solidarity constitute a pan-Arab necessity and a basic foundation to confront the U.S.-Zionist strategic alliance and restore the imbalance of power in the region. Because of the Central Committee's conviction in this principle, it has always expressed and continues to express its readiness to meet with any Arab force or regime on the basis of confrontation and of respecting the Palestinian will and independent decisionmaking.

13. The Central Committee expresses its appreciation for the fraternal and friendly states which stood by our revolution during its darkest moments in the battles of Tripoli, including the Islamic and African states, the nonaligned countries, the socialist countries headed by the USSR, and the PRC.

14. The Central Committee reiterates its views expressed in its statement on Brother Abu 'Ammar's visit to Cairo. It considers this visit to be an organizational violation, contrary to the methods of making decisions within Fatah and the PLO. This visit was made upon Abu 'Ammar's personal decision. The Central Committee has made a number of internal decisions to enhance the line of collective leadership in the Central Committee and the other Fatah institutions.

15. The Central Committee's position on the visit and its implications is not directed against constructive efforts which are exerted to restore Egypt to the Arab ranks in order to once again play its leading role in the Arab world. With its history and people and its Camp David-free strength, Egypt constitutes an effective force on the path of Arab unity in terms of its position, steadfastness, development, and international influence.

16. The Central Committee has decided to form a committee from among its members to study and define the form and principles of the relations with Egypt in coordination with the PLO Executive Committee and in light of the Executive Committee decision made during its 17-18 March 1983 meeting.

17. The work of this committee and its decisions will be presented to the next PNC session after being discussed within the organizational framework of the Fatah movement.

18. The dialogue with Jordan will be concerned with bilateral relations and political movements on the basis of the PNC and Fes summit resolutions. Therefore, the Central Committee has formed from its own members a subcommittee to coordinate with the PLO Executive Committee to this effect.

The Fatah Central Committee calls on its members, people, and Arab nation and on its friends in the world to stand by it sincerely and earnestly in order to bypass the present crisis in light of the consequences of evacuating the Palestinian revolution from Tripoli, especially since the current stage requires clear, decisive decisions, efforts, and approaches to guarantee the continuation of the struggle and the vitality of the cause.

There is no place among us for the hypocrite and the capitulator. Only steadfast heroes will enter the arena of struggle.

Let us be above all our wounds. Let us have confidence in ourselves. Let us face the plot as one man. We have no choice but to remain firm and steadfast. We must have a clear political stand. We must adhere to our organizational principles.

We call on our brothers in the Palestinian arena who have defended the independent Palestinian decisionmaking with honor and with a full sense of responsibility to join us in our struggle. Let us face the next stage together, hand in hand. Let us bear the heavy burden of our march with clear hearts and open minds.

As for our brothers who joined us in our march, we greet them. We grasp their hands and pledge to them to work for the establishment of the pan-Arab front that will confornt our enemies and restore our people's inalienable rights.

Greetings to our people in the occupied territories and everywhere. Greetings of gratitude coupled with our pledge that the Fatah movement will remain an organziation and leadership that is true to its pledges to continue the struggle until our people realize their national aims and their sovereignty over their national soil in Palestine.

Glory and immortality to our martyrs! Revolution until victory!

PLO Executive Committee Begins Closed Sessions

PNC Meeting in February

JN060909 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee Began closed meetings in Tunis last night under Yasir 'Arafat. It has been learned that 9 of the 14 Executive Committee members are taking part in these meetings. They are: Yasir 'Arafat himself, Faruq Qaddumi, Mahmud 'Abbas, 'Abd ar-Rahim Ahmad, Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani, Hamid Abu Sittah, Jamal as-Surani, Hanna Nasir, and Zuhdi an-Nashashibi. Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, Executive Committee member of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], is currently in Tunis but is not taking part in the meetigns in accordance with the PFLP- DFLP boycott decision.

A source close to 'Arafat says the Executive Committee has decided to call for convening the PNC in February. This decision will be sent to PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahim, who is in Damascus, in order to take the appropriate measures.

Information disseminated yesterday said that the PNC will hold its session in Algiers.

AFP Reports Lack of Quorum

NC061214 Paris AFP in English 1156 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Text] Tunis, Jan 6 (AFP) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation's 14-member Executive Committee failed to get the required quorum of nine members for a crucial meeting on new strategy yesterday, Palestinian sources disclosed today. The committee found itself one man short of the quorum after the Executive Committee secretary-general, Zudhi an-Nashashibi, did not turn up in Tunis as expected.

The meeting had been expected to focus on Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's December 22 reconciliation in Cairo with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and on new policy after Mr. 'Arafat's eviction from Lebanon. Mr. 'Arafat, whose leadership has been rejected by pro-Syrian PLO dissidents, has been strongly criticised by some influential Palestinian and Arab leaders for violating the Arab world's boycott of Egypt since the Camp David Accords with Israel in 1978.

According to several Palestinian reports, yesterday's meeting was turned into an informal forum whose powers werelimited to making resolutions that have no mandatory effect. The depleted committee now plans to convene a session of the Palestinian National Council, the parliament in exile, to discuss future strategy at a date and place to be fixed later, the sources said.

(Of the council's 315 members, 110 made clear in a communique published last Monday in Damascus that they were opposed to Mr 'Arafat's policies.)

Yesterday's Executive Committee session was boycotted by representatives of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine of George Habash, who has called for Mr. 'Arafat's removal, and by members of the pro-Syrian As-Sa'iqah movement and the Libyan-backed Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, led by Ahmad Jibril.

Although he was in Tunis, Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, the representative of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine led by Nayif Hawatimah, also stayed away from the meeting. Palestinian sources said Mr. 'Abd Rabbuh was believed to be involved in discussions with leaders of Al-Fatah, the main PLO group, to obtain "clarifications" about Mr. 'Arafat's trip to Cairo before deciding whether or not to attend.

'Arafat Denies Idea of Government-in-Exile

JN051220 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1000 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat has affirmed that he is not thinking of forming a Palestinian government-in-exile. In an interview published today by the Cairo magazine *AL-MUSAWWAR*, 'Arafat said that the influential forces in the Middle East are the USSR and the United States. He announced that Egyptian-Palestinian relations are essential and vital for the battle.

'Arafat made this statement in San'a' before the Tunis meeting of the Fatah Central Committee.

Saudi Magazine on Egyptian-'Arafat Relations

NC051610 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] London, 5 Jan (MENA) — The London-based Arabic language Saudi magazine *AL-MAJALLAH* reports that during his recent meeting in Tunis with PLO members, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat explained that decisions were made by the PLO Executive Committee during its March meeting in Damascus to pursue an open-door policy with Egypt. He added that PLO Political Department head Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi] had been scheduled to visit Cairo if the division in the Fatah movement had not taken place.

In Saturday's edition, *AL-MAJALLAH* says that at the Tunis meeting, during which the latest Palestinian developments and 'Arafat's visit to Cairo were discussed, 'Arafat emphasized that Egypt played a principal role in guaranteeing protection for the Palestinian combatants departing from Tripoli, and that Egypt had supported him with ammunition and weapons during the siege. *AL-MAJALLAH* quotes 'Arafat as saying at the Tunis meeting: "I will visit Cairo a second, third, and fourth time, and whenever circumstances permit. I will not yield to pressure or blackmail."

AL-MAJALLAH says that 'Arafat also disclosed at the meeting that Egypt unravelled the security knot which had hampered the Palestinian combatants' departure from Tripoli when France refused to imclude in its guarantee of protection both the time of the departure and arrival at the ports where the Greek ships were anchored.

Moreover, *AL-MAJALLAH* quotes sources close to Yasir 'Arafat as saying: "There is a new political phase which the PLO will enter in alliance with Egypt. Important Palestinian and Arab developments are expected to appear soon."

Quoting Palestinian sources, *AL-MAJALLAH* points out that during the Cairo meeting it was agreed that Egypt, with the support of France, will seek a UN Security Council meeting in order to issue an initiative on the Palestinian issue, the contents of which would be based on the French-Egyptian project, the Fes summit resolutions, the U.S.-Soviet statement, and the Reagan initiative. *AL-MAJALLAH* reports that it was also agreed that Egypt will exert efforts with the West European states while the PLO will exert efforts with the Eastern states and Soviet Union in order to mobilize support for the initiative.

AL-MAJALLAH adds that President Husni Mubarak had expressed Egypt's readiness to exert efforts with France to arrange an official visit by Yasir 'Arafat to Paris soon and also to exert efforts with Jordan to decide on the nature of future steps between Jordan and the PLO.

Egypt Conveys 'Arafat Message to Security Council

NC060908 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0820 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Text] United Nations, 6 Jan (MENA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has called on the Security Council to take prompt measures to stop Israel's recent illegal measures in the occupied territory and to take action to end the Israeli occupation of Palestinian land since 1967. Zuhdi at-Tarazi, the PLO representative at the United Nations, conveyed the Palestinian request as outlined in Yasir 'Arafat's message to the Security Council president through Ahmad Tawfiq Khalil, Egyptian delegate to the Security Council.

At-Tarazi said that the message refers to reports that the Israeli Knesset approved a draft bill extending validity of the emergency bylaws in the occupied territory, and to amendments that have been made to the draft bill approved by the Knesset last August empowering the Israeli authorities to impose application of Israeli laws in the occupied territory. At-Tarazi pointed out that 'Arafat's message emphasized that these matters are being considered as a new step in the ongoing annexation process and the segregation against the Palestinian people who are still living in the Palestinian land. He also affirmed that the Israeli measures are considered as a flagrant violation of international law and of several relevant Security Council resolutions.

Palestinian Forces To Remain in Lebanon

GF051958 Doha QNA in Arabic 1944 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Damascus, 5 Jan (QNA) — Official Palestinian sources announced in Damascus today that reports on the withdrawal of Palestinian forces from Lebanon to Syria are untrue. The sources said that the Palestinian forces will remain in their positions because they should be there to resist the Zionist enemy and stand alongside the Syrian forces in repulsing any Israeli attack.

The Palestinian sources were replying to reports circulating in Beirut today that forces from the Al-Yarmuk and Hittin brigades will leave Lebanon for Syria.

The sources said that any moves by these forces is aimed at improving their positions and making them better able to defend themselves and confront aggression. The sources concluded by stating that there is full coordination and close cooperation between the various Palestinian forces and the Syrian forces in Lebanon.

Salah Khalaf Meets With 3-Member Delegation

LD051427 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1313 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Tunis 5 Jan (KUNA) — Member of the Fatah Central Committee Mahmud 'Abbas — Abu Mazin — said here today that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will make a tour of Arab countries following the Islamic summit conference in order to hold consultations with Arab leaders on a strategy for united Arab action. 'Abbas told KUNA that the 'Arafat-led Palestinian delegation to the Islamic summit which will be held in Morocco will submit a comprehensive working paper on the roles the Islamic states could play regarding the Palestinian question in general and the preservation of the Islamic holy places in Jerusalem.

On the other hand, 'Abbas said that his colleague Salah Khalaf — Abu Iyad — member of the Fatah Central Committee, conferred here yesterday evening with a delegation representing the PFLP, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, and the Palestine Communist Party. 'Abbas said that the delegation included 'Abd ar-Rahim Malluh for the Popular Front, Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh for the Democratic Front, and Sulayman an-Najjab for the Communist Party. Abu Mazin described the dialogue between Abu Iyad and the tripartite delegation as "positive." He said it centered on the need to restore understanding between Fatah and the Popular Front and the Democratic Front so as to pave the way for the convening of the PNC in the next 3 months.

OMAN

Official Talks With Sudanese Begin 5 Jan

GF051744 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Official talks between Oman, led by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, and a Sudanese delegation, led by Foreign Affairs Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak, began in Muscat today. The two sides discussed issues of interest to the two countries and exchanged views on current Arab and international events.

Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Oman today on an official visit.

Iraqi Envoy Presents Credentials to Sultan Qabus

JN041616 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1300 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Text] Muscat, 4 Jan (INA) — Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman today received the credentials of Muhammad Ghanim al-'Inaz as ambassador extraordinaire and minister plenipotentiary for Iraq.

In a speech on this occasion, Al-'Inaz praised Oman's stand on the war with Iran and said: I am pleased to take this opportunity to express Iraq's appreciation for your principled and responsible stand toward the Gulf war and the continued Iranian aggressions against Iraq. He added: This stand reflects your concern about Arab solidarity and joint action in conformance with the spirit of the resolutions that the Arab League has taken in this regard.

In reply, Sultan Qabus said: We agree with you that the current war between brotherly Iraq and Iran must be ended and the present problems between the two neighboring countries must be solved by peaceful means. He added: We value Iraq's stand and readiness to negotiate for ending the war. We hope that the other side will respond to these good intentions.

PDRY

PFLP Official Departs After Brief Visit

GF051428 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ali Mustafa, PFLP assistant secretary general, left Aden today after a visit to our country which lasted several days, and during which he met with a number of party and government officials and discussed with them recent developments in the situation in the Palestinian and Arab arenas, as well as bilateral relations.

He was seen off at the airport by Mahmud an-Najashi, member and deputy secretary of the YSP Central Committee, and a number of officials at the Secretariat of the YSP Central Committee.

SAUDI ARABIA

Upcoming Meeting With Lebanon, Syria Viewed

GF051510 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] A meeting will be held in Riyadh this Sunday among Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign affairs minister, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign affairs minister, and Dr Elie Salim, Lebanese foreign affairs minister.

The agenda of the meeting includes discussion of a number of issues dealing with the efforts that will be made in the upcoming phase regarding Lebanese national reconciliation, in addition to the security plan for Mount Lebanon, Beirut, and the northern suburb.

Saudi-Syrian Efforts in Lebanon Examined

LD052213 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Commentary by Husayn al-'Askari]

[Text] Observers optimistically view the efforts currently being made by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in coordination with Syria, for establishing a permanent agreement to restore to Lebanon its security and peace under a comprehensive national reconciliation.

Approval of the bases for the permanent security formula by the concerned parties is the main point on which the Saudi plan, in coordination with Syria, is focused. It is the available alternative which is accepted by all parties who are increasingly convinced of the need to establish permanent security, and thus halt the fighting in the areas of tension.

The bases of this formula concentrate on widening the presence of the Lebanese Army from west and east Beirut to some strategic points along the old route to Sidon via Sayf and 'Ayn ar-Rummanah, then north from east Beirut along the coastal Beirut-Tripoli route to the southern entrance of Tripoli. The agreement allows elements of the security forces to enter the southern suburb of Beirut and the villages of [name indistinct], Ash-Shuf, and the province of Kharrub, and all the coastal villages and towns from Beirut to [name indistinct] in the north.

All this will be coordinated with the withdrawal of all armed men, regardless of their loyalties, from all the regions. This will be accompanied by the return of security, judicial and services departments to their positions in all regions in order to resume their work without obstruction. This will also be accompanied by a halt of all propaganda campaigns among the sides of the conflict, which led to increasing the tension.

In the shadow of this reality, characterized by the joint wish of all parties that they all meet at a point of agreement which would be the basis for a political solution — especially after the situation has dangerously exploded because of the sudden deterio-

ration of security — Saudi efforts since last Sunday are silently and effectively concentrating on coordination with Syria on the establishment of a political solution. They are also hoping — more than at any other time in the recent past — for a chance to create an atmosphere which helps to restore confidence among the conflicting parties, which are now convinced of the need for cooperation so that the country can avoid more of the destruction which has nearly destroyed Lebanon as a nation and a homeland.

Because of all these things, observers expect that the current efforts to find a formula for a comprehensive security agreement through the agreement of all parties will bring conclusive results in favor of the security and peace of Lebanon.

'UKAZ Notes Reagan Remarks on Al-Asad Meeting

GF060443 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 6 Jan 84

[From the press review]

[Text] On the new developments in the region since U.S. President Ronald Reagan expressed his readiness to meet with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad after Syria's release of the captured American pilot, the newspaper *'UKAZ* emphasized that there is a possibility of positive changes in the political arena after this initiative.

'UKAZ called on the U.S. Administration to confirm its credibility through a decisive confrontation to put an end to the Israeli aggression and Israel's policy of aborting peace efforts, and to make a positive reply to the Syrian initiative in a step that would prove the sincerity of U.S. peace intentions in the region.

YAR

President Receives PDRY Chairman's Message

GF051812 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the armed forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received in his office today 'Abdallah Ahmad Ghanim, member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of state for cabinet affairs in the southern part of the homeland.

Ghanim delivered to him a message from 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers in the southern part of the homeland, on consulting and coordinating on issues of mutual concern, and recent incidents in the Arab and international arenas. The meeting was attended by Husayn ad-Daf'i, the president's adviser for unity affairs and a member of the Standing Committee.

Application of Israeli Law to West Bank Condemned

NC051620 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1530 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 5 Jan (MENA) — David Sultan, Israeli charge d'affaires in Cairo, was summoned this evening to the Foreign Ministry where Assistant Foreign Minister Ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid handed him an urgent message from Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister for Yitzhaq Shamir, regarding Egypt's condemnation and denunciation of Israel's application of Israeli laws on some West Bank inhabitants.

Egypt has demanded that Israel halt this action which violates the UN Charter, Geneva conventions, the peace agreement, and UN Resolution No 242.

More on Condemnation

NC051700 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1555 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] Cairo, 5 Jan (MENA) — The Arab Republic of Egypt today carried out an intensive diplomatic move aimed at halting Israeli violations in the occupied Arab territories, particularly in connection with the application of Israeli laws on some people in the occupied territories, as well as new proposals pertaining to Palestinian citizens in the West Bank, and other measures which contravene the UN Charter and various international agreements.

Within this framework, 'Ali sent urgent messages today by diplomatic channels to the UN secretary general; the U.S. secretary of state in the United States' capacity as a partner in the efforts for a peaceful settlement: and the French minister of external relations in France's capacity as current EC chairman. He also sent a message to Yitzhaq Shamir, Israeli prime minister and foreign minister.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali said Egypt believes the application of certain Israeli laws in the West Bank in some cases is a violation of the Geneva agreements, the UN Charter, UN Resolution No 242, and the framework of the peace agreement in the Middle East. 'Ali said that through its move today and messages to the foreign ministers of certain states and the UN secretary general, Egypt has requested that the application of Israeli laws in the occupied Arab territories be canceled.

'Ali revealed that in the message he sent to George Shultz, Egypt explained that such a measure will hamper efforts for a settlement to which the United States is a partner, and will also hamper the impetus which the United States is attempting to give to the peace efforts in the current phase. He added: We hope that our movement on this international level will lead to an intervention which will bring about the cancellation of the Israeli measures.

'Ali Comments on 4 Jan Israeli Raid in Lebanon

NC051557 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1540 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 5 Jan (MENA) — Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has said that yesterday's Israeli raid on Lebanese territory is a new escalation of the situation in the Middle East. In his comment, 'Ali said the raid has caused the shedding of a great deal of innocent blood, and will only increase hatred in the area and delay the possibilities for peace.

'Ali Comments on Fatah Central Committee Statement

NC051717 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1645 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 5 Jan (MENA) — The Foreign Ministry has asked Plenipotentiary Minister Husayn Musharrafah, head of the Egyptian interests section in Tunis, to provide it with the text of the final statement on the deliberations of Fatah's Central Committee which was issued yesterday. The ministry also asked the organization's office in Cairo for the same text.

Commenting on Fatah's statement, Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, said: I would rather wait until I see the official statement. On principle, however, and according to what the news agencies have reported, the statement has some positive points, particularly regarding the denouncement of some sorts of Arab interference and the expulsion of some dissidents from Fatah; a matter which indicates a tendency to take decisive stands. There is also what the statement mentioned regarding Arab solidarity, the importance of the Egyptian role, and the return of Egypt to Arab ranks; as well as the fact that the statement hailed Egypt's role on securing the Palestinian departure from Tripoli; and protecting the ships ferrying the Palestinians both in the Mediterranean and the Red Sea.

'Ali added that Fatah's statement regarding the Egyptian stance is an acknowledgement of the solid Egyptian stand toward national issues and the importance of the Egyptian role in the Arab arena.

'Ali Meets With Swedish Deputy Foreign Minister

NC051552 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1455 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 5 Jan (MENA) — Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister met at noon today with Swedish Deputy Foreign Minister Schori, who is currently visiting Cairo. During the meeting, a review was made of the current Mideast situation, particularly Lebanon, the Palestinian issue, and the efforts that are being made to lessen tension in the area and to find a solution for the Middle East problem. They discussed what the Europeans can do to achieve a peaceful solution in the area. Both sides also discussed bilateral relations and means to bolster them in the technological, economic, and trade spheres.

Schori arrived in Cairo last night on a several-day visit to Egypt.

Ash-Sharif Reports on 4 Jan Cabinet Meeting

NC051537 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] The Cabinet, headed by Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, has emphasized that Egypt underlines the significance

of starting the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue and activating the submitted peace initiatives aimed at finding a permanent, just, and comprehensive solution for the Palestinian issue and Middle East situation.

This was stated by Safwat ash-Sharif, minister of state for information. He added that the Cabinet, during its meeting yesterday, reviewed the outcome of the meeting between President Husni Mubarak and Yasir 'Arafat, as well as the Arab and international reactions to the meeting. The Cabinet emphasized that Egypt is working for the Palestinian issue with a national conscience. The Cabinet also reviewed the outcome of Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali's visits to the United States and Sudan, developments in the Lebanese situation, and the U.S. envoy's current visit to the Middle East.

Safwat ash-Sharif added that the Cabinet discussed development issues and those on solving citizens' problems. Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din said the ministers, members of the NDP General Secretariat, and conservatives will hold political rallies in various towns during the middle of the month. Moreover, the NDP General Secretariat will hold a joint meeting next week with the Cabinet, the governorates' secretaries, and heads of the local popular councils to review the methods of solving citizens' problems in all domains.

Ash-Sharif also said that the Cabinet approved the draft law adjusting the status of the government's civilian employees following the amendments which have been introduced.

Regarding the internal situation, the Cabinet heard a report from Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha in which he referred to the significance of the stability of democracy and sovereignty of law. He affirmed that the security organs will confront any illegal activity.

Ghali Statement Upon Leaving for 9-Day Tour

NC051325 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1120 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 5 Jan (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, left Cairo at noon today for Paris on the first leg of a 9-day tour that will — after France — take him to Benin and Togo. In a departure statement, Dr Ghali said that he will hand French President Francois Mitterrand a letter from President Husni Mubarak tomorrow morning, Friday. Furthermore, he will hold talks with Claude Cheysson, minister of state for external affairs, and also meet with the Socialist Party leadership in Paris.

The minister of state for foreign affairs noted that the importance of his Paris visit derives from the fact that it comes in wake of France's assumption of the leadership of the European Economic Community as of January 1984. In addition, Egypt will become a UN Security Council member as of the same date.

Dr Ghali said: France's and Egypt's joint membership in the Security Council will foster further coordination between Egyptian and French diplomacy.

Dr Butrus Ghali said that during his visit to Benin, he will hand a letter from President Husni Mubarak to the president of Benin. He will also hold talks with the foreign minister of that country.

The minister of state for foreign affairs added that he will then go to Lome to convey to its president a message from President Mubarak. He will also hold talks with its foreign minister.

Dr Ghali noted that he will participate in Togo's celebrations marking the 17th anniversary of President Eyadema's accession to the presidency of the Republic.

In concluding his statement, Dr Ghali mentioned that he will stop over at Abidjan, the Ivory Coast capital, where he will meet with Ivory Coast Foreign Affairs Minister Simeon Ake.

2-Day Visit to France

For reportage on Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali's 48-hour visit to France, see the France section of the 6 January Western Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

AL-AHRAM Assesses Mubarak-'Arafat Meeting

PM051050 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 30 Dec 83 pp 1,3

[Chief Editor Ibrahim Nafi' article:"We, 'Arafat, and the Arabs"]

[Excerpts] The meeting between President Husni Mubarak and Yasir 'Arafat in Cairo was not, as some voices alleged, an impromptu incident or sudden development without causes. It was certainly not an individual decision that 'Arafat took while reviewing his calculations and bitter experience with the slogan champions while on board the Greek ship that carried his fighters on their exodus. It was none of these. Nor was it an emotional outburst by the PLO chairman under the influence of the dramatic and painful circumstances of the departure after the siege and exhausting battles with comrades of the recent past. The visit was definitely not a forced response under the influence of "embarrassment" at the warmth of Egyptian hearts that received 'Arafat and his fighters in the Mediterranean. Egyptians accompanied him from all sides and hovered above him as he was crossing the sea and canal en route to his forces' new location.

For quite some time the meeting between 'Arafat and Egypt was getting closer as both sides kept moving forward until they met in the waters of the Suez Canal. The result was 'Arafat's visit to Cairo and his historic meeting with President Mubarak. 'Arafat's visit did not completely surprise many political observers who had been watching recent developments in the Arab arena, nor was it a complete surprise to the Egyptian political leadership. A few days before 'Arafat's departure from Tripoli, there were signs which seemed to certain observers an indication of such a meeting. Among the Greek ships that carried his fighters from Tripoli to several Arab countries, 'Arafat chose to travel on the ship that carried some of his fighters to North Yemen, which was bound to pass through the Suez Canal en route to Al-Hudaydah. 'Arafat's choice of the convoy specifically heading for North Yemen was the first sign that he had chosen Egypt as the first

Arab land with which to come in contact after his departure from Tripoli. On board the Greek ship sailing in the dark, while Tripoli was still in the background and its bitter memories still fresh in the mind, 'Arafat held a meeting with his military commanders to discuss his views and lessons of their predicament during the siege. He reviewed the developments of the situation with them, and the discussion centered on Egypt's role in supporting the PLO, its support for the resistance during the Beirut seige, its positive support for the Palestine problem, and its sincere and persevering efforts with the countries concerned to ensure the departure of 'Arafat and his men from Tripoli.

The military commanders unanimously decided that 'Arafat should visit Cairo and meet with President Mubarak. The decision was, as described later by some observers, the decision of people who, under the hell of fire and siege in Tripoli, "realized" who is most sincere and loyal to the cause and thus made their decision and proclaimed their choice, discarding all formalities and slogans. Perhaps this explains the contradictory statements by some Fatah leaders who were a long way from the area when they heard the news. Some of them "condemned" the meeting and considered it a unilateral action by 'Arafat, but the facts soon emerged and those leaders realized that the meeting was not a unilateral decision nor impromptu initiative by 'Arafat. Thus, the critical voices fell silent and the movement's Central Committee decided the matter by supporting the meeting.

It can be said that this important meeting confirmed several important facts:

It confirmed Egypt's support for the legitimacy of the Palestinian leadership represented by 'Arafat, thus strengthening his position vis-a-vis the dissidents. It also confirmed that 'Arafat has obtained Cairo's support for his steps to preserve independent Palestinian decisionmaking and to seek a peaceful and just solution with free will, particularly since the dissidents, who boast of the military option, have blocked his way to any likely military option following his departure from Lebanon while knowing well that their military option is a worthless myth as long as Syria does not allow them to carry out military operations from its territory. In this regard, the meeting confirmed that Egypt supports the peace that the Palestinians accept and the course they take to reach it. Whether this course is through Jordan or elsewhere, Egypt's stand is in support of peace and is immutable.

The meeting has strengthened 'Arafat's position among the Palestinian masses in the West Bank and Gaza. It has won overwhelming support among the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, who are under the pressure of occupation and aspire toward a just solution that would preserve the identity of the territory before it is finally lost.

The strangest thing of all was the reaction of the dissidents, Syrians, Libyans and other champions of steadfastness in condemning this meeting and this Egyptian-Palestinian rapprochement which in varying degrees agrees with the Israeli rejection of the meeting and expressions of astonishment and regret over it.

As for the Israeli reactions, they ranged from expressions of "surprise and regret" by Shamir, to descriptions of it as an "unhappy day" by Ben-Elisar, and a step against peace and a departure from the spirit of the peace treaty by the Israeli Cabinet spokesman.

Egypt completely rejects all such reactions. It is not the Egyptian-Palestinian rapprochment that is a threat to peace. What actually threatens peace are the ruling Likud's policies, which are based on deferring a solution of the Palestine problem to gain time to continue the settlement policy. These policies are also based on a policy of violence to obtain political gains; the invasion of Lebanon and refusal to withdraw from it are the strongest evidence of such policies. As rejection of the meeting allegedly was due to 'Arafat's and the PLO's "terrorist" character, we do not think this a valid reason. Shamir's long history of terror and that of Begin before him spare us the need to discuss this allegation. Furthermore, how can we brand 'Arafat and his colleagues terrorists when they are seeking to solve their problem by joining the peace process?

Any Israeli objection to this is rejected because it does not serve the cause of peace, just as the hard-line tone and the four no's which they have again been reiterating — "no to a return to the 1967 borders," "no to negotiations with 'Arafat," "no to the partitioning of Jerusalem," and "no to a Palestinian state" — do not serve it. The Israelis and Western world used to blame the Arabs for their three old no's. What will the world do to Israel, which has added a fourth no to them?

As for the U.S. stand, it was perhaps the only positive gesture since the proclamation of the revival of the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance. The United States supported the meeting and saw it as an important step toward imparting momentum to the peace process. But this stand, despite its positive nature, still lacks many thingsbefore it can achieve the desired goal. The first factor it lacks is the need for the United States to abandon its old "no" to contact the PLO. There must be contact with the PLO, even if the United States does not wish to recognize it out of its commitment to Kissinger's famous pledge to Israel not to recognize the PLO unless it first recognizes Israel and Security Council Resolution 242. Even if the United States does not wish to recognize the PLO, this pledge, which is unfair in our view, does not prevent it from contacting the PLO and holding a dialogue with it. Contact does not always require recognition. The United States had contacts with the PRC and held important dialogues with it long before recognizing it. What prevents a repetition of the same experience with the PLO in order to impart momentum to peace?

With regard to the Syrian stand, suffice it to say that, regardless of the justifications, it is illogical for Syria to exploit all efforts that have been made to solve the Palestine problem merely to serve its own interest of solving the Golan problem. This purely selfish attitude will only delay a solution of both problems. It is possible, through serious Arab efforts, to solve both problems simultaneously. A solution of this problem cannot be achieved by dominating some Palestinian leaderships in order to use them as tools in blocking any efforts to solve the Palestine problem until the Golan situation is on its way to being solved.

Perhaps in the midst of all this we will find our right way, in the midst of the threatening dangers on all sides, the strong international interactions current on the territory of the area, and the

international activity that is taking place and signaling new changes. The Iraqi-Iranian war is continuing, and no early end seems imminent; Lebanon is torn, and there seems to be no immediate solution to its problems; the contact lines between the two superpowers are becoming terrifyingly close and threaten serious consequences and events; and the two superpowers are making effective moves in the area.

The United States is tilting toward Iraq, and the Soviets are stepping up their presence in Syria and South Yemen. Libya and Ethiopia, backed by the Soviets, are acting suspiciously in Sudan. For their part the Soviets are concentrating their efforts on the five northern provinces of Iran and the Gulf oil region. The Iraqi oil outlets are being diverted to the Red Sea through Saudi Arabia since Syria has blocked the Iraqi oil pipeline. All these developments increase the strategic importance of the Red Sea and bring the contact lines between the two superpowers in the region even closer.

The conclusion that we should draw from all these interactions and events is that nobody, however strong he may be, can guarantee stability in the area through a strategic agreement between the United States and Israel. Rather, such stability can be achieved through a just and lasting solution of the problems of the area, foremost among which are the Palestinian and Lebanese problems and the problem of the Golan.

Egypt is the principal Arab party that can protect peace in the area with the participation of all Arab countries. Therefore, Egypt must be a principal party in any international or strategic Arab understanding regarding the area.

Egypt has often expressed its understanding of its own role through many steps and decisions. In its support of peace, establishment of justice, and restoration of rights, it pays little attention to minor matters or to irresponsible personal actions. It rises above all this to play its national role and fulfill its national commitments.

This, too, is what we ask of the others and when we call on Yasir 'Arafat not to once again plunge into the sea of Arab disputes and to go ahead with realizing his national goals without heeding the false call for consensus or preserving PLO unity at the expense of solving the problem. Preserving PLO unity means subjection to control by a minority, the Syrians, and Libyans. 'Arafat should be content with the majority in taking decisions.

It should be enough for 'Arafat that his decision will be supported by the great majority of Palestinians represented by the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza. He will also be supported by the majority of countries that love justice and peace. This alone should be enough for a decision.

Briefs

Cooperation Agreement With Romania — Cairo, 27 Dec (MENA) — A technical cooperation agreement was signed today between Egypt and Romania. The signing ceremony was attended by Electricity and Energy Minister Engineer Mahir Abazah. The agreement was signed on the Egyptian side by Egyptian Authority Director Engineer 'Bad al-Hamid as-Sayyad and on the Romanian side by (Lodean Herlea), director of the government ELECTROROM authority, who is currently visiting Cairo. After the signing, Engineer As-Sayyad said that under the agreement the Romanian authority undertakes to export and instal a power transformer station in Ad-Dukhaylah in the Al-Iskandariyah Governorate. The station, which will cost 2 million pounds, will be put into operation in 18 months. He pointed out that the new station will provide power for the new Ad-Dukhaylah port, and meet the needs of the new iron and steel factory, the new housing sectors, and other services along the northern coast. [Text] [Cairo MENA in Arabic 1040 GMT 27 Dec NC]

Chadian Ambassadors — Cairo, 31 Dec (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, today received Chadian Ambassador to Cairo Homsala Ouagmotching to bid him farewell on the occasion of the end of his term of office. [Excerpt][Cairo MENA in Arabic 1445 GMT 31 Dec 83 NC]— Cairo, 2 Jan (MENA) —(Ngarsnan Ramay), new Chadian ambassador to Cairo arrived in Cairo tonight. Ramay replaces Homsala Ouangmotching who was transferred to the Foreign Ministry in Chad. [Excerpt][Cairo MENA in Arabic 2230 GMT 2 Jan 84 NC]

INA Report on Saddam Husayn's Army Day Speech

JN061006 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0900 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 6 Jan (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has warned that Iraq will deal suitable blows to the Iranian regime's interests wherever they may be and with all the means in its possession. He affirmed that Iraq will carry out deterrent actions against the Iranian regime if it launches any new aggression against Iraqi military centers or any new military offensive against the Iraqi forces.

The president said that the Tehran rulers' continuation in the game of war and destruction will cost them a great deal more now and in the future than in the past. He emphasized that the Iraqis today are more powerful and experienced in choosing the targets and dealing painful blows to the Iranian aggressors. This came in an important speech which President Saddam Husayn made at noon today on the 63d anniversary of the founding of the Iraqi Army. The speech was broadcast over Iraqi radios and television.

President Saddam Husayn said that the Iranian regime isolated itself three times last year; at the Nonaligned Summit Conference, the UN Security Council meetings, and the Islamic foreign ministers conference. He explained that in view of its insistence on its errors and deviation, the Iranian regime had no other recourse but to use cheap blackmail at a time when Iraq's stands received all the support and understanding.

President Saddam Husayn called for strengthening the ties of Arab solidarity and adhering to the bases of collective Arab security by backing Iraq with all means without any embarrassment, and consolidating joint Arab action against the Iranian rulers.

The president pointed out that the Arab Gulf region witnessed a state of anxiety in recent months due to the Iranian rulers' threats against the freedom of navigation in the Gulf. These threats have expanded to cover several international circles.

The president said that Iraq has always been concerned about the security and stability of the Arab Gulf region and the legitimate interests of the states which have commercial dealings with Gulf countries. Thus, it avoided any escalation of military operations in the region during this period. So far, he said, Iraq's activities have been confined to limited military operations by conventional military means.

The president called on all parties concerned to heed Iraq's warnings not to approach banned areas in the Arab Gulf region when dispatching their ships to the region. He affirmed that Iraq will not assume responsibility for any losses that may be sustained by those parties that ignore these warnings.

Regarding the current Arab situation, President Saddam Husayn said that Arab solidarity is now going through a serious stage of weakness and division due to the indulgence of certain Arab sides in the pursuance of the course of blackmail, threats, and nonadherence to the bases of this soldiarity and the collective resolutions of Arab institutions.

The president pointed out that since its establishment, the PLO has been exposed to a most serious plot, a plot which aimed at depriving it of its political willpower and physically liquidating its elements. The president affirmed that acquiescence in such a situation will involve the Arab nation in further deterioration.

The president called for exposing and resisting these policies and insisting on the minimum principles of Arab solidarity, and also adhering to the formulas of collective Arab action which safeguard Arab sovereignty, security, and ensure the minimum level of Arab steadfastness.

The president called on the Arab nation to give moral and material support to the Palestinian Arab people in order to strengthen its unity and solidarity around the PLO and its leadership.

Armed Forces General Command Communique No 1,332

JN051636 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1620 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Jan (INA) — One of the forward Iraqi units has either killed or wounded a number of enemy soldiers in the central sector of the front. Iraqi military Communique No 1,332 issued here tonight said that the Iranian artillery shelled the border towns of Mandali and Khurmal and their environs damaging a number of civilian buildings. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,332 issued by the Armed Forces General Command.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our triumphant Army is continuing its splendid operations at the front against the forces of the tyrant Khomeyniite clique. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. In the central sector of the front, one of our forward units opened fire at a group of enemy soldiers opposite Iraqi positions killing four soldiers and wounding others.

2. One person was killed, and one infantry position and one hardware stockpile was destroyed in the Maysan sector.

3. One person was killed, and one machine gun was destroyed in the area east of Basra.

4. The spiteful enemy artillery today shelled Mandali and Khurmal and their environs damaging a number of civilian buildings.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 5 January 1984

MENA Cites Ramadan Interview by Cairo Paper

NC061048 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0920 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Text] Cairo, 6 Jan (MENA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi first deputy prime minister, has stressed that Egypt's return to its vanguard role in the Arab nation is a sure guarantee of achieving

victory, progress, peace, and prosperity in all fields. In a statement to the Egyptian newspaper *AL-JUMHURIYAH*, 6 January issue, the high-ranking Iraqi official said that if there is one clear hope to disperse the darkness of the deteriorating situation in the Arab world now, it lies in Egypt's regaining its status in the Arab nation. Ramadan affirmed that Iraqi-Egyptian relations are steadily growing and that mutual confidence between Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak will ensure the continued growth of current bilateral relations.

Speaking about the situation on the Iraqi-Iranian front, Ramadan asserted that Iraq's position is good and that all of Iran's offensives have been repulsed and destroyed, although it is driving the sons of the Iranian people to the battlefront in unprecedented great numbers. He pointed out that the Iranian losses in a battle east of Basra totalled 70,000, killed and wounded, as Mohsen Reza'i commander of the revolutionary guard in Iran, admitted.

Asked about the possibility of stopping this war, Ramadan said that the war will continue until those backing Iran realize that it is impossible to defeat Iraq and until the Arabs close ranks and realize that the aggression is aimed against all Arabs.

Ramadan pointed out that Iraq has always sought to live in peace to ensure the continuation of the construction process that Iraq began since the start of the revolution.

The Iranian side, however, persisted in not responding to the peace appeals. Iran has continued to provoke Iraq and its leadership, and to foment racist and sectarian sedition, not only in Iraq, but also in all the Arab Gulf countries.

He said that international committees had been asked to conduct an investigation to determine which side began the aggression, because there are clear and established facts about Iran's provoking Iraq as well as hundreds of border incidents before the war started.

AD-DUSTUR: Reagan Intends To Amend Peace Plan

JN051318 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 5 Jan 84 pp 1, 21

[Text] Washington — Exclusive — Diplomatic sources have stated that President Reagan informed Secretary of State George Shultz at a recent meeting that he intends to make minor amendments to his Middle East peace initiative in response to a joint French-Egyptian request. The soruces added that the new amendments to the Reagan plan will make it acceptable to the PLO and number of Arab countries.

Reagan informed Shultz that he intends to put tough and serious pressure on Israel to make it accept the plan, including the minor amendments, and to make Israel come to the negotiationing table in order to solve the conflict in the region.

The diplomatic sources said President Reagan informed his secretary of state that the political value of a peace agreement in the region, or even bringing all parties to the negotiating table on the basis of the amended plan, is more important than running after the Jewish vote in the U.S. presidential election.

The private meeting between President Reagan and his secretary of state took place after Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali's recent trip to Washington.

President Reagan sent an urgent message to this effect to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. Lewis Samuel, U.S. ambassador in Tel Aviv, conveyed the message to Shamir at his home after midnight. Shamir was awakened from his sleep to receive the message.

Shamir called his ministers to meet the next day and informed them of the details of Reagan's message. A heated discussion of the Reagan plan and its amendments took place. During this meeting, the Israeli Cabinet discussed the application of Israeli law in the West Bank.

It has been mentioned that a number of Israeli ministers support the Reagan plan.

The same sources said that freezing settlements was the main topic Shamir and Moshe Arens discussed with U.S. officials during their last visit to Washington. It was agreed that the Israeli Government would announce its decision on the freezing of settlements in the occupied territories for economic reasons only.

King Husayn Addresses Message to NCC Speaker

JN051711 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has addressed a message to National Consultative Council [NCC] Speaker Sulayman 'Arar. His majesty expressed thanks and appreciation for the NCC speaker and members who have participated in the NCC's work since its establishment.

King Husayn said: The NCC played a significant role as the embodiment of our continued concern about deepening the meanings of democracy and maintaining it as a basic manifestation of popular participation in assuming responsibility and serving the citizen and the homeland.

His majesty said: Today, the spirit of the Constitution necessitates that we resume parliamentary life and that the Parliament exercise its legislative authority in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. Each citizen in our country will always have his share of the responsibility and trust placed in him. The glory of the homeland and the nation's dignity, serving its higher issues and achieving the objectives of our one Jordanian family, will continue to be the objective that we all aspire to achieve.

Royal Decree on 6 Senate Members' Resignation

JN051522 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1423 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Amman, 5 Jan (PETRA) — A royal decree has been issued accepting the resignation of the following Senate members as of 8 January 1984: Riyad al-Miflih, 'Akif al-Fayiz, Fu'ad Qaqish, Sa'ud al-Qadi, Kamil 'Urayqat, and Faysal al-Jazi.

Prince Hasan Receives U.S. Visitors

JN051555 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1435 GMT Jan 84

[Text] Amman, 5 Jan (PETRA) — His Highness Crown Prince Hasan this morning received Eugene Douglas, the U.S. President's special representative for refugee affairs, currently visiting Jordan. His highness and Douglas discussed matters and problems related to refugee affairs. The U.S. ambassador in Amman attended the meeting.

This morning his highness also received a delegation representing various sectors in Boston. This delegation is currently visiting Jordan as part of a tour of a number of the region's states. His higness briefed the delegation on the situation in the region in general, the situation in the occupied Arab territories in particular, and Israel's expansionist and settlement policy in the occupied Arab territories which aims at Judaizing the region and expelling its original citizens.

Information Minister's Remarks

JN051406 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah has said that the various types of U.S. support for Israel impair the "peace-in-return-for-land" formula which would bring about an end to the Middle East conflict and achieve a just and durable peace. He added that Israel claims concern over peace at a time when it annexes land. He reiterated that through its support for Israel, the United States strengthens Israel's position to proceed with this policy at the expense of peace, to which everybody aspires.

This came during Abu 'Awdah's meeting today with a U.S. delegation from the Boston area, comprising 30 memebrs representing the political, legal, and scientific sectors.

During the meeting, Abu 'Awdah reviewed postive developments in the Arab stand since 1967 and the acceptance of UN Resolution 242, compared to Israel's negative stand, which emanates from the ecstacy of victory and the hegemony of military power on the course of events in order to expand in the occupied Arab territory. He explained the importance of Jerusalem to Muslims, Christians, and Jews and said: There will be no negotiations over the land; neither will Jerusalem be subject to negotiation except for matters related to religious arrangements.

Abu 'Awdah reviewed the Arab-Israeli conflict since the 1967 war and Israel's settlement policy in the occupied territories which, through a series of measures, foremost of them the settlement scheme, aims to empty the land of its legitimate owners.

AD-DUSTUR on Fatah Central Committee Statement

JN051048 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 5 Jan 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "A Victory for PLO Unity," *AD-DUSTUR* says: After long and detailed discussions, the Fatah Central Committee issued its awaited statement yesterday which included the viewpoint of the Palestinian resistance movement's main organ on a number of developments and incidents that have occurred in the Palestinian arena over the past long months. Undoubtedly the Fatah statement came as a victory for the spirit and course of democracy, which constitutes the great guarantee for the continuation of the Palestinian movement and for the mobilizing of national forces and trends instead of exhausting these forces and trends in internal conflicts and differences which serve only the enemies who are lying in wait everywhere.

Fatah dealt with Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Cairo with a deep sense of responsibility. This visit was the most prominent subject in the statement, which abandons reckless accusations and at the same time entrenches the principle of collective leadership according to the principles and resolutions adopted by the legitimate institutions and frameworks.

AD-DUSTUR continues: While we hope the Fatah statement will put aside all the negative Palestinian reactions that resulted from the Cairo visit, we also hope that all efforts will be geared to reunifying the PLO, because thus will help the PLO with all its legitimate institutions and organs to continue the march on the long path of struggle and to face all that is required of it after the exodus from Tripoli. The PLO's enemies tried to use 'Arafat's visit to Cairo as a cover for their vicious crime against the Palestinian cause and people and to exploit it in order to deepen the split in the Palestinian arena.

AD-DUSTUR concludes: Hence, and in light of the Fatah Central Committee statement, all Palestinian forces which are not connected with this or that Arab regime are required not only to hasten their return to the fold of national unity and the PLO's institutions, but also to work for establishing bases that guarantee their commitment to the spirit and content of the Palestinian institutions' resolutions and help to confront all challenges and current problems. The most important thing is to re-establish confidence in the PLO and remove all the stains that marred its long march.

Al-Jumayyil Meets With Press Association Council
NC052150 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2002 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Excerpts] President Amin al-Jumayyil today reviewed the current situation, outlining the state's stances regarding current issues centering on the government's position in the current phase. The president stressed that he has always been eager to be above the parties and communities and work for the interest of Lebanon and of all the Lebanese, because any narrow view in dealing with national affairs only means failure. President al-Jumayyil said: If we are successful in implementing the security plan, it will be followed by several matters relating to checking anarchism at all levels. The president added: I am facing 1984 with great hope, because despite all the negative aspects in the field, the positive aspects remain greater and more important. The president affirmed that he is facing the future with optimism because at the Lebanese level we have accomplished the reconciliation meeting in Geneva where all the leaderships approved the principle of dialogue.

The president was speaking during a lengthy meeting with the Lebanese press, at which the general national situation and informational affairs were reviewed from all aspects.

The president this morning received in the presence of Roger Shaykhani, minister of information and justice, and Dr Manaf Mansur, director general of information, the members of the Press Association Council led by Doyen Muhammad al-Ba'labakki. The members include Deputy Doyen Fadil Sa'id 'Aql; Secretary Basim as-Sab'; Treasurer George 'Umayrah; Yusuf Khattar al-Hilu; Michel Abu Jawdah; Jubran Hayik; Talal Salman; Henry Asmar; Rafiq Khuri; and Ilyan 'Awn. The following are the minutes of the meeting: At the outset of the meeting which lasted 3 hours, Doyen al-Ba'labakki conveyed to President al-Jumayyil the Lebanese press' affection on the occasion of the new year and its good wishes that all the efforts made by the president and the regime be successful so that the new year will be better than the previous year, and so that the hopes of all the Lebanese for security, stability, sovereignty, and independence may be achieved.

President al-Jumayyil welcomed the meeting with the press and said: This is not our first meeting. We are always in touch. There is a natural interaction between you and me because we are all facing a historical responsibility proceeding from Lebanon's sublime interest, which calls for objectivity, positivism, and self-restraint. Lebanon's interest particularly calls for self-censorship for us all. The president said: It is no secret that the country's situation in general is abnormal. It can be said that many people are trying to shape a homeland and state institutions according to their own size. Very few are thinking of establishing an army, for example, or state institutions according to Lebanon's size as a whole. Therefore, our suffering from this fact is daily and great. However, we have a clear conscience because we fully understand the real Lebanese interest. We are constantly working with this inspiration. All my concern is that I should be above the parties and the communities, and that I should work for Lebanon's interest and that of all the Lebanese alike. Any narrow view in dealing with national affairs means only Lebanon's failure.

President al-Jumayyil added: The frustration of some leaders makes them interpret as they like the moves we are making, although every move by us stems from original Lebanese convictions. Moreover, some leaders have become prisoner to their positions and to the convulsive situation around them. I do not blame anyone, but this is the fact. As these leaders are incapable of confronting such a convulsive situation, everybody throws the burden and the blame on the state because they think the state's wall is low. The state cannot be weak. The time has come that we should have a state in every meaning of the word.

President al-Jumayyil then dealt with the suspension of the newspaper *AS-SAFIR* and its implications and said: I am aware that you want to change some laws. There is no objection to that; however, I believe that breaking the law cannot be accepted, so that the press may continue to say whatever it likes there must be rules. Otherwise the Lebanese press will be similar to the press in certain countries which we all know. I am eager to safeguard the atmosphere that should prevail in Lebanon. The minute the freedom of responsible press ends, there would not be Lebanon. I am aware of the pressures facing the press to publish statements issued by this or that party. In this respect, the censorship is also to protect the press inasmuch as it is to protect the state's security.

We have absolutely no objection to your serious study with the information minister on the question of self-censorship. The homeland does not belong to Amin al-Jumayyil. The homeland must continue with real freedoms, not with anarchy.

Doyen al-Ba'labakki then referred to legislative decree No 121, the mistakes contained therein, and the information minister's readiness to discuss and amend it as necessary. The members of the Press Association Council explained Legislative Decree No 1 and its danger to the press.

The president then said: We attach great hopes to the security plan. If we are successful in implementing the plan, it will be followed by several matters relating to checking anarchism at all levels. There is no doubt that this will help the press to perform its mission. Regarding the legislative decrees, it is true that their application will not lead to ending the war in Lebanon, but the government should mobilize all resources to contain the escalation and put an end to the communal convulsion which has assumed an alarming dimension. Never before in history have we known such waves to hit our country. I would like you to be confident that the press is not the one aimed at, but the press should express the public opinion while we are tackling all matters, be they related to the political dialogue, security, or to public relations. Balancing between the logic of freedoms and discipline in the interest of the homeland is necessary within our conviction of the need to safeguard press freedom. I am eager for the regime to succeed. The great part of this success is due to this balancing proceeding from the fact that the head of state is above all parties, and that liberties are sacred to us. I hope that you will follow up the discussion with the information minister and that your meetings will not end before you emerge with a bill regulating all these matters.

Roger Shaykhani, minister of justice and information, praised the doyen's defense of the press and said that Legislative Decree

No 1 was not enacted during the era of President al-Jumayyil, but that the previous regime considered it necessary to issue it. We are presently in a more serious situation than before. It is our duty to protect ourselves. I would like to congratulate the press for having implemented self-censorship by 99 percent. Any decree, including Legislative Decree No 1, can be amended provided there is adherence to self-censorship. On this basis, we are prepared to tackle all legal matters.

The discussion then turned to the general situation. The president said: Those who disrupted the airport and shelled the power station in Al-Jiyah think that these places belong to Amin al-Jumayyil, and not to all the Lebanese. Middle East Airlines has so far lost 500 million Lebanese pounds. The destruction of the Tripoli oil installations means the loss of $150 million, about 800 million Lebanese pounds. What is the purpose of this? The airport area and the Tripoli oil refinery were not a battle area. This suggests that the shelling and destruction were deliberately intended to inflict losses on Lebanon.

The president said: I am facing 1984 with great hopes. Despite all the negative aspects in the field, the positive aspects remain greater and more important, although these are not visible. We are in an explosive state and the people do not view the positive aspects like they view the negative aspects, although the size of the former is great and very important. The president said: The regime began in 1982 and each party gave us an opportunity until the end of the winter of 1983 to shape Lebanon according to its size. We have been capable of consolidating some of our capabilities and of moving some matters despite our conviction; the truce will not last long. Those who wagered on the departure of 'Arafat from Beirut in 1982 forgot the departure of the remaining Palestinians and the armies. They forgot the existence of domestic problems which made certain parties concerned about their future and others to call for equality. There is deceit and lack of assurance in addition to the residues of the nine year war at the economic level. My conviction has been that my mission will be extremely difficult. Therefore, I have called it the adventure of salvation. It was an adventure in every sense of the word. We benefitted from the respite to concentrate on some positive aspects, the foremost of which is the Lebanese Army, so that it will be the Army of all Lebanon and from all Lebanon. We also concentrated on making certain reforms.

It is true that the legislative decrees met certain objections. No one is infallible. In the economic sector, we concentrated on the free zones and the necessary legislation to ensure our exports, and the holding and the offshore banking system, in addition to other legislative decrees in various areas, in particular the drafting of a comprehensive plan for the development of all Lebanon, which is ready for implementation by the Development Council. The president then discussed the financial situation and said that the Lebanese pounds are still very sound and stable in comparison with other currencies. The gold cover is full. The public debt by the Treasury is much less than the public debt in other large countries such as France and Italy; everything is proportional. I would like to affirm that the economic situation does not warrant all the pessimism suggested by some people.

The president presented statements issued by the World Bank showing the position of the Lebanese pounds vis-a-vis the dollar,in respect of other main currencies such as the pound sterling, the Swiss franc, and the French franc. These statements also showed that the gold cover for the Lebanese currency is very high and comes in second place after the Kuwaiti dinar's cover. The public debt per individual Lebanese is much less than per individual in the large countries.

The president then discussed general affairs and said: At the security level there are several useful measures. The most important of these measures is the enactment of a new law for the Internal Security Forces. On the health and social affairs level, decrees have been issued to regulate these affairs on modern bases. Legislative decrees have also been issued regarding civil and criminal trial proceedings which should have been rectified a long time ago.

The president added: When we arrived at the 17 May agreement,it was clear that Lebanon rejected a peace treaty with Israel or become isolated from the Arab world. Under the agreement, the question of mutual relations will not be discussed before sixmonths following the completion of the Israeli withdrawal. We have obtained a pledge for an immediate withdrawal. However, the question of mutual relations will only be in light of our Arab interests. Those who claim that the regime adopts a unilateral stance are saying incorrect things. I have been eager to obtain the approval of all leaderships and communities. The Chamber of Deputies has semi-unanimously endorsed the agreement.

The president said: I have constantly been asking the various groups to join us in a broad goverment — a goverment of national unity. We had frankly proposed this at the Geneva conference. We also proposed that we, all together, should shoulder the responsibility for abolishing or ratifying the agreement. I regret to say that many stances have been inspired from outside the Lebanese framework. We are still open to the establishment of a national unity government. We are also open to all the proposed reforms, however, all these require a minimum amount of response. There are no infallible provisions. Everything is subject to discussion and debate. What is important is that all the parties agree to come to the negotiating table. If there are Middle Eastern quarters which are interested in preventing this, we on our part are working to maintain the dialogue in order to arrive at the formation of a national unity government.

The president added: I would like to say that despite the atmospheres which prevailed in the country from the end of August,including the explosion in Beirut's southern suburbs, I am facing the future with optimism. At the Lebanese level, we have accomplished the reconciliation in Geneva where all the leaderships approved the principle of the dialogue. We hope that the second round of the conference will be held this month. What happened in Geneva is an important turning point, and the meetings are continuing with all the leaderships so that we may arrive at the common denominator which can be adopted for progressing along our national march.

The president added: Today we have an Army despite the obstacles it is facing. It is our duty to exclude the Army from the internal outbiddings arena so that it can take over the areas from which the foreign forces will withdraw. If we really want to save

the south and other areas which must return to Lebanese sovereignty, we must facilitate the Army's mission. It is irrational and illogical that the Army is wanted in the south and is unacceptable in other areas. We hope that all the Lebanese leaderships will cooperate with us to consolidate the Army and encourage enlistment in the Army, because it is the only means for delivering Lebanon from every foreign force on its territory. He who hinders the support of the Army would be contributing to maintaining the occupations. Speaking about foreign relations, the president said: We hope that we will be able to find solutions to the problems facing the positive and distinguished relations between us and Syria. We also wish President Hafiz al-Asad a speedy recovery so that we may resume our direct contact in service of our mutual interests.

Our relations with Israel have passed through a difficult phase characterized by the Israeli practices in the south from which the people are suffering bitterly. The situation cannot be tolerated by the southerner. I and all of us are with him. We have no option but to tackle the matter through our international relations. Regarding the stances of the states contributing to the Multinational Force, all the heads of these states have confirmed that their forces will remain in Lebanon. We have reached solutions on the redeployment and tasks of these forces. The Italian president himself retracted a negative statement he made.

The president said: All these positive aspects make us bypass the negative aspects and view with optimism the future at the beginning of this year. This is the situation, although the citizen is in a state close to despair. I have no doubt that the rumors circulated are made by non-Lebanese whose interest is to destroy the Lebanese people. The security plan, although it is important, is not an objective itself, but a means for calming the atmosphere in order to be a step toward a comprehensive road. What we are seeking is the achievement of a greater goal. We will try as much as possible for the state to assume the actual reign over matters in the field.

Regarding the expected Geneva conference, the president hoped that the Riyadh meeting among the Lebanese, Saudi, and Syrian foreign ministers on 7 January will find some outlets which will constitute the minimum level of understanding on the principles which will be crowned by the Geneva conference and by constant efforts of understanding on the basis of which a national unity government will be formed to tackle all these matters. The president said: We hope the Arabs will help us in this phase.

The president noted his meeting with Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, which was a very positive meeting and which lasted 6 continuous hours, and said: I sensed from his excellency a firm, positive stance which we hope will be translated in the field, because he is capable of playing an important role on the Lebanese, Arab, and internationl level.

At the end of the meeting, Doyen al-Ba'labakki thanked President al-Jumayyil on behalf of the Lebanese press for this frank and open interview, affirming that the press will closely cooperate with the regime, particularly during these hard circumstances which Lebanon is passing through and which call for massing all the national resources to save the country.

Monte Carlo on Security Plan, Junblatt Remarks

JN060904 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Text] All the parties concerned, including Syria, have agreed on the blueprint of the Lebanese security plan. Only the final touches, or what some sources describe as technical details, remain to be ironed out over the next few hours. These minor snags may be removed by Saudi envoy Rafiq al-Hariri, who arrived in Damascus yesterday. Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri has also arrived in Damascus. Both began talks with Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt. Birri and Junblatt are due to hold talks with Syria's Khaddam to remove the last obstacles on the path of the security plan.

Speaking to a delegation from the Lebanese village of Al-Mukhtarah yesterday, Junblatt said that the security plan may constitute a military and not a political achievement. He said there are differences between him and the Lebanese authorities on the deployment of the Lebanese Army in the mountain areas of Al-Kharrub and Suq al-Gharb. Junblatt said that the cause of these differences is his refusal to allow the Army to enter the mountain before a political settlement is reached, taking into consideration the Army's structure and intentions in order to grant it some credibility. He said the Army has become a very serious problem, adding that he will be satisfied only with deep-rooted political reforms that would satisfy the oppressed communities in Lebanon. Junblatt also said: I do not imagine that a settlement of the crisis will be realized soon, because the state is maneuvering to realize some gains.

Security Situation in Beirut, Tripoli Updated

NC060709 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Security sources told us this morning that calm is returning to all the axes on the mountain and in the [Al-Kharrub] region following a night of heated clashes, in which artillery and missiles were used, on the traditional combat axes. The battles continued late into the night, and the boom of explosions could be clearly heard in the southern suburbs and in Beirut's outskirts. The clashes interrupted the operation of the Al-Jiyah thermal power plant, resulting in a power cut which blacked out quarters of Beirut, the [southern] suburbs, and other areas. The Lebanon Electricity Authority yesterday announced that it had reinstituted the rationing system, and that it had begun feeding Beirut and its suburbs with an average 10-hour daily power supply.

With regard to Tripoli, at 2030 yesterday violent fighting was renewed among gunmen belonging to some local parties. Battles with all kinds of automatic weapons and artillery raged in Al-Qubbah and centered on the axes of Ash-Sha'rani, Al-Baqar, Harat as-Sayyidah, Al-Qal'ah, the Al-Qubbah Square, Hayy Latifah, the American Square, and Ba'l Muhsin. [Former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami and the members of the Security Arrangements Committee affiliated with the Higher Coordination Committee held a series of contacts with the quarters concerned. These contacts were aimed at stopping the fighting that intensified at 2130 and resulted in counterattacks — par-

ticularly on the axes of Al-Baqar and the American Square. The fighting caused fires in shops and houses.

Violent Clashes Resume in Tripoli 6 Jan

NC061133 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Text] Violent clashes involving various kinds of weapons are taking place in Tripoli between the Islamic Unification Movement on the one side and the 'Alawites and Red Knights on the other. The clashes are particularly heavy between the B'al Muhsin locality, which is inhabited by 'Alawites, and the Bab at-Tabbanah locality, which is under the control of the Islamic Unification Movement. These battles followed a night of violent clashes, the worst in Tripoli since the departure of the Palestinians.

IDF Stop Traffic to Sidon, Lift Cordon

NC060749 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Text] As of this morning, the Israeli forces have been controlling the Riyad as-Sulh Road and the An-Nijmah Square perimeter in Sidon. Furthermore, the Israeli forces cut all the roads leading into the city and positioned two tanks in the middle of the main road. The Israeli forces also turned back all cars that were heading for Sidon from Al-Awwali, as well as all cars toward Sidon from the south. The reasons are not clear. In fact, we have been informed a few moments ago that the siege on Sidon city has been lifted.

Libya's Jallud To Arrive in Beirut 7 Jan

NC060936 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Text] Informed sources have told the Voice of Lebanon that Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, Libya's number two man, will arrive in Beirut tomorrow for talks with President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil and high-ranking officials on the present situation in Lebanon and in the area.

Al-Asad Receives Iranian Envoy, Message

JN051347 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1315 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] At 1215 in Damascus today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Hoseyn Sheikh ol-Islam, the personal envoy of Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i. Ol-Islam delivered a message to the president from Khamene'i dealing with the forthcoming Islamic summit conference.

More on Meeting

JN052118 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] President al-Asad received in Damascus at 1215 today Hoseyn Sheikh ol-Islam, Iranian assistant foreign minister and the Iranian president's personal envoy. 'Isam an-Na'ib, assistant foreign minister, and Hojjat ol-Islam 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, Iranian ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. Sheikh ol-Islam conveyed a written message to the president from Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i dealing with the forthcoming Islamic Summit conference and the issues the conference will deal with. During the meeting, they discussed the forthcoming Islamic summit conference, bilateral relations, and the situation in the region. The president asked the Iranian envoy to convey his greetings to Imam Khomeyni, leader of the Islamic revolution in Iran, and to Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i.

Libya's Jallud Arrives, Holds Talks 5 Jan

JN051912 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the leadership of the Libyan 1 September Revolution, held a meeting immediately after their arrival at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs building this evening. The talks during the meeting dealt with the current Arab situation. Jallud arrived in Damascus this evening. He was received at Damascus International Airport by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Hunayn Hatim, director of the Arab Homeland Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the charge d'affaires of the Arab-Libyan Relations Office in Damascus, and the members of this office.

Meets With George Habash

LD052206 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud arrived this evening in Damascus for a visit. Immediately on arrival, he met Brother 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of Syria. At the meeting, they discussed the current situation in the Arab region. Staff Major Jallud received at his place of stay in Damascus this evening Dr George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP]; and Brothers Taysir Qubba'h and Salah Salah, members of the DFLP Political Bureau.

Meets With PFLP-GC Leaders

LD060637 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0015 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Yesterday evening in Damascus Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud received Brother Ahmad Jibril, secretary general of the PFLP-GC, and Brother Talal Naji, member of the PLO Executive Committee and assistant secretary general of PFLP-GC.

U.S. Congressional Delegation Arrives 5 Jan

Sees Khaddam

JN051327 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, received a U.S. congressional delegation headed by John Tower, chairman of the Armed Services Committee. During their meeting today, talks revolved around the current political situation in the region. The U.S. delegation arrived in Damascus this morning.

Az-Zu'bi Receives Delegation

JN051653 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Damascus — People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi has affirmed our people's determination — under the leadership of our commander and president, Hafiz al-Asad — to continue the struggle against all challenges and acts of aggression which face our nation and threaten regional peace and security until a just peace is achieved, the usurped, legitimate rights of the Palestinian people are regained, and the occupied Arab territories are liberated. This came this morning during Az-Zu'bi's reception of the U.S. congressional delegation headed by John Tower. The meeting was attended by Dr Muhsin Bilal, chairman of the Arab and Foreign Affairs Committee of the People's Assembly, and the U.S. ambassador in Damascus.

During the meeting, Tower expressed delight at visiting Syria, and explained the objective of his delegation's visit to our country by showing a desire to probe the facts concerning the actual course of events.

Damascus Reports Jordan's Parliamentary Changes

Part of 'Assigned Role'

JN052028 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Within the framework of the Jordanian regime's assigned role in the Reagan plan and the Camp David accords, and in conformity with the results of 'Arafat's suspect visit to Cairo, the dissolution of the Jordanian National Consultative Council as of Saturday, the day after tomorrow, was announced in Jordan today.

It is worth noting that this measure comes as a preliminary step — one which was aided by 'Arafat's deviationist moves when he visited the Egyptian regime — to the Jordanian regime's retreat from the resolutions of the 1974 Rabat summit, which declared the PLO to be the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

AL-BA'TH on 'Plot'

JN060802 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 6 Jan 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Jordanian Regime Reveals Its Intentions," *AL-BA'TH* writes: King Husayn has recalled his old parliament to convene for an extraordinary session. At the same time, Moshe Arens has called on the Jordanian king to withdraw his recognition of the PLO, join Camp David, and stop talking about the freezing of settlements in the West Bank, which, as he put it, has become Israeli land.

The connection is very clear. The Jordanian regime does not want to issue a decision which represents a retreat from the Arab summit resolutions concerning the PLO's representation of the Palestinian people. However, this regime has found the answer by recalling the old Jordanian parliament, thus affirming that it does not recognize the existence of a Palestinian land or people. The king's decision is no coincidence. It is part of a plan which he has been preparing and paving the way for since he proposed his confederation scheme. At that time, the plan was viewed as a tacit retreat from the Algiers and Riyadh summits.

The king was waiting for Israel to provide him with some services that would enable him to reveal his intentions. The siege of Beirut, the withdrawal of Palestinian fighters from Beirut, and the great amount of Palestinian blood shed during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon encouraged the king to reveal his intentions. This courage took the form of the king's deviation from the Fes summit resolutions and his commitment to the Reagan plan.

Because he needs a Palestinian cover, King Husayn had to play a direct part in Yasir 'Arafat's game, which led to a deviation from the path of the Palestinian revolution. The king forgave the Israeli enemy and considered the inter-Palestinian fighting to be a gate for the efforts he has long been making.

AL-BA'TH wonders: Why has the Jordanian regime taken this step at this particular time? Why has 'Arafat bemoaned the luck of Palestinian arms when he himself killed thousands of those who carried them? *AL-BA'TH* adds: It is a plot. Any plot that is so threatening to the Arab existence and fate must have been planned for a long time. The recall of the Jordanian parliament does not reflect a Jordanian desire for democracy. This is so because Jordanian prisons remain open, oppression is rife, and the people are aware of the regime's agreement and connections with the Zionist enemy.

Therefore, the intentions of the Jordanian regime are no longer bewildering. Jordan's relations with the Camp David regime [Egypt] are being strengthened. The Jordanian Army is being transformed into a U.S. rapid deployment force. 'Arafat does not object to ending the Palestinian existence in order to promote the British decision dividing Palestine between Israel and Jordan.

Concluding, *AL-BA'TH* declares: These are facts which speak for themselves. Will certain Arab leaders remain political brokers? Will the resolutions adopted by Arab leaders continue to be openly violated?

The Israeli Knesset has decreed that the West Bank and Gaza are Israeli lands. The United States has allied itself with Israel to confirm the Knesset decision. On whom are the Arab defeatists pinning their hopes? They are creating their own defeats. They reject the people's method of defending their destinies and land.

TISHRIN: U.S. 'Hostile Posture' Should Change

JN060844 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 6 Jan 84

[From the press review]

[Text] In its "Behind the News" column, *TISHRIN* writes: While Syria was releasing the U.S. pilot and, through this humanitarian gesture, affirming its desire to avoid an escalation of the explosive regional situation and its intention to clear the air for ending the Reagan administration's military involvement, Israel raided the Lebanese mountain areas — and repeated its savage raids the next day against innocent people in Ba'labakk, killing and injuring hundreds of them. The only lesson that can be learned from this Zionist escalation is that over the past 2 days, Israel has killed and injured hundreds of people using U.S. bombs and planes.

Israel is bent on committing more horrible crimes in order to bring the situation to a head, destroy the chances for the Lebanese national accord, and drag the U.S. Administration into the circle of hostility toward Lebanon, Syria, and the Arab nation within the framework of the strategic alliance signed by Reagan and Shamir — an alliance that one informed U.S. politician described as a disaster for the United States.

The U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance has given Israel a free hand in the region. The Western world, which used to condemn such savage raids or at least express its regret, no longer shows any opposition to them. As part of this alliance, the United States is forced to cover for Israel's crimes and to support it using all means. Over the past few months, the Reagan administration has been working to create crises in order to involve U.S. forces in the war against both the Lebanese nationalists and the Syrian units in Lebanon. Reagan's remark that he welcomes President al-Asad's humanitarian gesture does not absolve him of the blame for the crimes which Israel has committed or for those which it will commit.

What is needed is a change in the hostile U.S. posture and a reconsideration of both overall U.S. policy in the Middle East and the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance. If President Reagan is genuinely concerned about peace in Lebanon and the Lebanese national accord, he would do well to end his strategic ties with Israel, which covets southern Lebanon and is behind that coun-

try's ruin and dismemberment. President Reagan should work for the withdrawal of Israeli, U.S., and NATO forces; he should keep his fleets out of the region, and create circumstances conducive to a Lebanese national reconciliation dialogue. This is true because guns are not a good way to enter into a dialogue with Syria and the Lebanese nationalist forces.

The Arab region will not succumb. Syria will defend Arab rights and sovereignty with all the means available to it.

TISHRIN Urges Reagan to Demonstrate Goodwill

PM051358 Damascus TISHRIN in Arabic 29 Dec 83 p 8

['Isam Dari article: "Reagan's Words and Statements"]

[Excerpts] At a brief and impromptu press conference, U.S. President Reagan declared that U.S. military intervention in Lebanon will not continue indefinitely, and that his administration will continue to support Al-Jumayyil's government as long as "there is hope of establishing peace."

Words are one thing and deeds quite another. We wish that Reagan would prove his goodwill to us by doing something tangible for peace instead of making resounding statements, declarations, and big promises which have no basis in any action on the ground.

Everyone is aware of the fact that the Reagan administration is both the cause of tension in the Middle East and the obstacle to all serious attempts to establish peace in the region.

The United States is not a neutral party in the conflict and never was. It is a party to everything that happened and happens in the Middle East, and is fully responsible for all the calamities and problems of the Arab nation.

What President Reagan's words require are tangible steps to support them, something which the Reagan administration lacks. Anyone who really wants to put an end to his forces' interference in Lebanon's domestic affairs and who really wants these forces back home does not insist on imposing his will on the region.

If Reagan's support for Al-Jumayyil's government means interference in Lebanon's internal affairs, then the Lebanese people reject such U.S. support so long as it deprives Lebanon of its freedom, independence, and sovereignty.

The target of all U.S. political and military moves is Syria, which is resisting attempts to impose the U.S.-Israeli will on the region.

Syria insists on its position and is determined to resist. It emphasizes that it will never change its known policies and will continue to defend Arab causes without being intimidated by any threats or deceived by sweet words. It is fully aware of Reagan's aims and knows that Reagan's words are quite different from his actions. Syria will not be fooled by sweet and pleasant words.

Commentary on Position of 'Collaborating Minority'

JN051540 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, the Zionist command has mentioned a security plan that has been prepared through consultation and coordination with the United States. Israel frankly admitted that the strength reflected in the pursuit of aggression is the means to impose its design for security not only on Lebanon, but on all the countries in the Arab nation. Israel, which does not conceal the fact that all its planning and aggression takes place with the full knowledge of the U.S. Administration, sought to demonstrate a number of things with its latest act of aggression against Ba'labakk. It wanted to prove to the Arabs that its alliance with the United States is stronger than the Arabs' friendship with it, and that the defeatist concessions looming on the Arab political horizon will not save the Arabs from being killed with U.S. weapons. This act will also make Israel no less faithful to its aggressive, expansionist policy.

If these acts of aggression represent a Zionist demand, they undoubtedly represent a U.S. reply to those Arabs who are bargaining as part of an attempt to make them offer additional concessions which strip the Arab nation of its rights. The course of events since 5 June 1967 confirms that in response to any Arab concession, Israel becomes more savage and U.S. pressures increase in order to gain further concessions. Now that certain Arab parties have become more lenient with Israel than the United States itself, the Zionist command has taken this opportunity to shed more Arab blood. This is all the more true since some of those who have shouldered arms against Israel — such as Yasir 'Arafat — have become more insistent on dropping the Palestinian rifle and more responsive to the U.S.-Zionist logic than the Zionists themselves.

In the face of this defeatist line, Israel will not hesitate to escalate its acts of aggression in order to impose its security plan, which does not exclude southern Lebanon from occupation and Lebanese territory from partition. Nor does it exclude the occupied West Bank and Gaza from the laws of annexation, settlement, and eviction of their Arab residents. The Israeli defense minister considers it imperative for the Arabs to retreat from their decisions concerning the PLO and to escalate the killings in Arab lands. This will continue so long as the Arabs do not respond to Zionist logic or open their borders to the U.S.-Israeli onslaught. What is required on the U.S.-Israeli side is not merely Arab submission to the Zionist dream. The Arab action that is to enable Israel to fulfill this dream must be voluntary. Thus, the Arabs have no alternative but to accept either death or to give Israel what it wants.

Since the United States is implementing Israel's decisions, as Commander al-Asad has said, it will not be satisfied with all that it has obtained in Arab territory, including military facilities,

control of Arab resources, and domination of the political decisions made by certain Arab regimes. More than that, the United States is determined to try to destroy the Arab will as long as Israel's needs require such a thing and as long as Israel's security cannot be achieved unless Arab governments turn into administrations within a Zionist empire.

Those who have raised the flag of defeatism are attempting to spread their despair and act in order to justify their collusion or agentry by making the individual Arab feel that the confrontation is against his interests and that the handing of all Arab cards over to the United States is the most correct thing to do. Despite these images — which only humiliate those they represent — the fact remains that there will be no peace without the Arabism of Palestine. It is equally true that there will be no alternatives for the Arabs but to fight in defense of their existence. Furthermore, the logic of submission and defeatism only represents the will of the collaborating minority.

Communist Party on U.S.-Israeli 'Aggression'

JN060714 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Text] Damascus — The Political Bureau of the Syrian Communist Party [SCP] has declared that, in practice, the Camp David accords and the Reagan plan seek to liquidate the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and replace it with a form of autonomy or local administration under Israeli domination. It added that approaching Cairo or King Husayn will not bring any different results.

In a statement last night, the Political Bureau of the SCP Central Committee said that the Palestinian people's great aim will be achieved through permanent struggle against imperialism and Zionism and through the alliance with the Arab and international forces of progress and freedom, particularly Syria and the USSR. The statement called on all Arab patriotic and national forces — particularly the Palestinian forces — to abort the U.S. imperialist plot and to mobilize all their forces against [word indistinct] the 17 May agreement so as to prevent the Arab homeland from becoming a bridgehead for the launching of U.S. aggression against the world's peoples.

The statement also called for the strengthening of solidarity among Syria, the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, and the Palestinian revolution, and for the strengthening of Syria's steadfastness and its determination to deter and foil all U.S.-Israeli acts of aggression.

Iraqi CP Condemns Iraqi-Kurdish Agreement

JN060810 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Damascus — The Political Bureau of the Iraqi Communist Party [ICP] has condemned the treacherous deal between the leadership of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan [PUK] and the dictatorial regime of Saddam Husayn. In a statement today, the ICP spokesman described this deal as a violation of the agreements and commitments which the leadership of the PUK had concluded with several parties in the Iraqi nationalist opposition forces. The spokesman also explained that the involvement of the PUK, led by Jalal Talabani, in this treacherous plan is no coincidence. This leadership used to hamper all efforts to mobilize the Iraqi opposition as a means of satisfying the bloody ruling clique in Baghdad, which is attempting to reinforce the reactionary plan against those nationalist countries hostile to U.S.-Zionist designs.

The spokesman called upon all nationalists to expose the disgraceful behavior of the PUK leadership, which causes great harm to the Iraqi nationalist movement and the struggle of the Arab liberation movement against hegemonic plans and U.S.-Zionist aggression. He also appealed for firmness and progress in the positions of struggle to overthrow Saddam's fascist regime.

Arens Accepts 9-Percent Ministry Budget Cut

TA052013 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens this evening informed the finance minister that he is prepared to implement the 9-percent cut in the Defense Ministry budget, as required by the resolution adopted by the Ministerial Committee on Economic Affairs. Our economics affairs correspondent Hayim Plattner notes that the defense minister's readiness to cut 9 percent of his ministry's budget will apply pressure on other ministers who had already announced that they are not prepared to cut their ministries' budgets by such a large percentage.

Calls Cuts 'Real, Painful'

TA061117 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens says that the defense budget cuts are real and painful, and all in all 12 percent of the defense budget will be cut. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that last year's budget was equivalent to $4.8 billion. The trimmed budget will thus reach only $4.2 billion. Half of the cut involves the $300 million Israel will not receive this year as a loan from the U.S. aid money for the defense establishment. The cuts that will be implemented are cuts the defense establishment had planned 4 months ago.

Radio Panel Discusses Government Economic Crisis

TA060747 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Panel discussion with party affairs correspondent Amnon Nadav, political correspondent Shimon Schiffer, and program moderator Shalom Qital — live, in the studios]

[Text] [Qital] The Ministerial Committee on Economic Affairs will convene this morning under the shadow of the coalition's threat that a change of power might occur within 2 to 3 weeks. In the next few minutes, we will try to examine the possibility of effecting a 9 percent cut in the government budget, and the possibility of a change of power. First of all we will speak to our party affairs correspondent Amnon Nadav, who tells us that the government may fall due to the opposition of the National Religious Party [NRP] and TAMI to a 9 percent cut in the budget of all ministries. Let us go over to the studio in Tel Aviv to our correspondent Amnon Nadav:

[Nadav] After weeks of talks in the coalition and the Alignment over the possibility that the Liberals will be the ones to cause a political turnabout, it is now clear that, behind this smokescreen, the key to this move is held by TAMI and the NRP. Neither of these parties is denying this possibility this morning, this time not as a threat but as a realistic assessment of the current situation.

The upcoming scenario envisioned by the ministers of these parties is that the meeting of the Ministerial Committee on Economic Affairs today will fail to pass the Cabinet's decision last Sunday to the effect that all ministers should submit proposals for a 9 percent cut in their ministries' budget. The NRP ministers, who will not attend today's meeting, are opposed to this move and will not effect a cut. Minister Uzan of TAMI will not only not effect a cut, but will urge an addition to the Welfare Ministry's budget.

Last night, the TAMI secretariat decided to oppose the cut and to demand, at next Sunday's Cabinet meeting, an immediate 10 percent salary rise for all those earning 30,000 shekels, and a 15 percent rise for all those earning 25,000 shekels. The management of the National Insurance Institute and Minister Uzan will make an unambiguous decision next week to amend eroded wages, but they will only notify the Treasury about this move.

TAMI and the NRP are ready for the possibility that the finance minister may resign in the wake of these moves, or perhaps later when the economic plan runs into a dead end. This will spell the end of this government, these parties believe. However, the Likud ministers are also aware of this danger and are now trying to dispel it.

In a meeting of the Liberals last night, it was decided that their ministers would agree to the 9 percent cut. However, as Minister Grupper put it: We will not let this government stoop so low, to a point where we let the TAMI and NRP ministers get away with their struggle about the cuts.

Still, it is believed in TAMI and the NRP that in such an event, the end of the government due to the economic crisis will only be delayed by a few days. Commenting on this, Minister Burg last night said: In the wake of the accumulating economic distress and psychological stress, there may be an ambush in the Knesset by some factions or splinter factions which may expose all the political possibilities. In the next few days it will become clear whether there will be early elections, or that an alternative or national unity government will be set up — everything is open.

[Qital] Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer: The report we have just heard mentions difficulties in the coalition. Is the Likud and the top echelon of the government aware of the troubles it is expected to run into with the NRP and TAMI? Is everything all right at the top echelon of the government?

[Schiffer] The prime minister is very well aware of this issue. That is why he issued a soothing announcement yesterday that the coalition is not undergoing any crisis, that the survival of the government is not endangered, and that he fully supports Kohen-Orgad. It should be noted that political circles this morning say that Shamir is backing Kohen-Orgad just as a man would back himself. After all, if Kohen-Orgad does not pull through, Yitzhaq Shamir and his government will collapse.

[Qital] The impression is that things are not too well with the leading trio or quartet. David Levi has been holding contacts about a package deal without Kohen-Orgad's knowledge. Is that true?

[Schiffer] Indeed, it emerged this week that all the talk about a leading trio — made up of Yitzhaq Shamir, Moshe Arens and Kohen-Orgad — was premature and actually worthless, because the next day Deputy Prime Minister David Levi proved that he

is the man holding the cards for the survival of the government, and he is the man responsible for the decisive moves: First, transferring the debate about the budget from the Cabinet to the Ministerial Committee on Economic Affairs; second, appealing to Histadrut Secretary General Meshel. Consequently, Shamir told the finance minister to discuss the cuts with the Histadrut. Hence, Defense Minister Moshe Arens' announcement that he is ready to effect a 9 percent cut is seen by political circles as an almost desperate attempt to politically support Shamir and Kohen-Orgad, rather than a mere budget cut. It is seen as an attempt to tackle the challenges currently posed by Deputy Prime Minister David Levi who, as I said, holds the cards for the survival of this government. There is no knowing how things will turn out. However, to sum up I will quote a senior and veteran minister who told me last night: The government is definitely in trouble, and matters will obviously be decided within the next 2 weeks.

Economic Committee Meets, No Decisions Reported

TA061037 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1020 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Text] The meeting of the Ministerial Committee on Economic Affairs to discuss a cut in the ministries' budgets ended in Jerusalem a few minutes ago. The finance minister said great progress had been made, and that the committee was close to concluding the debate.

Our correspondent Sha'ul Stav reports that the ministerial committee will hold another meeting next Tuesday, which may be the conclusive meeting on this issue. Earlier, Deputy Labor and Welfare Minister Ben-Tziyon Rubin said that welfare has already paid its share this year, and that a 9 percent cut in the welfare budget was impossible. A separate meeting will take place next week between representatives of the Labor and Welfare Ministry and the Finance Ministry to decide about the ministry's budget. Deputy Prime Minister David Levi said that the government's survival depends on the will of its members to continue this partnership. According to him, an effort can be discerned on the part of all government members to overcome the economic problems.

POST Poll Shows Alignment Increase Over Likud

TA060828 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 6 Jan 84 p 1

[Text] If general elections were held today, the Alignment would beat the Likud by 57 seats to 41, a poll conducted for *THE JERUSALEM POST* by the Modi'in Ezrahi Institute indicates.

According to the poll, which was carried out in the second half of last month, the representation of other parties in the Knesset would be little changed, making the task of establishing a viable coalition difficult.

There has been a steady rise in the popularity of the Alignment since May 1983, when polls indicated it would elect 42 deputies, as compared with 54 for the Likud. The Likud's standing dropped sharply in June - 47 seats only, as compared with the Alignment's 46. By October, the findings were Likud 40, Alignment 54.

In the most recent poll, the distribution of votes for small parties is almost identical with that in the last elections. However, the National Religious Party might expect five seats only as against the six they won in the 1981 elections. (One of the six, Rabbi Hayim Druckman, has since left the NRP to form his one-man Matzad Knesset faction.)

There is generally a greater movement from Likud supporters towards the Alignment than in the opposite direction, the pollsters note. The Alignment is supported by more elderly people - 60 years of age and over - than the Likud, whose voters are often people 23 to 30 years old. The Alignment is popular among people who are university-educated of European origin, largely secular in outlook, and those in the higher income brackets. The Likud appeals more to people with elementary or partial secondary education of Oriental background, as well as religious-minded and workers in trading and services sectors.

The poll was conducted among a sample of 1292 Jewish adults all over the country, excluding kibbutz members and the inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria, and the Golan.

Chief of Staff Levi Meets Senator Tower

TA051300 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi has said that the U.S. Marines in Lebanon should concentrate on aiding and training the Lebanese Army so that it will be able to expand its zone of control. This was said to the head of the U.S. Senate Armed Forces Committee, John Tower. Senator Tower left this morning for a visit of a few hours to Damascus, but our correspondent reports that he is not on any mission for President Reagan. This morning the President's spokesman announced that Reagan himself did not intend to meet with President al-Asad, although his envoy, Donald Rumsfeld, is scheduled to visit Damascus.

Arens Discusses Egyptian Buildup With Tower

TA061115 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 6 Jan 84 p 3

[Report by military correspondent Yosef Walter]

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens expressed to the chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Senator John Tower, and to Senator John Warner his concern over the rate of Egypt's military buildup, and over its policy toward Israel.

At a dinner for the senators, the defense minister pointed to the huge quantities of Western arms purchased by the Egyptian Army, including F-16 planes and new tanks. Mr Arens stressed that Egypt receives a grant from the United States amounting to $1.2 billion, the large part of which is used for military armament. He questioned the need for this huge military increase at a time when there is a state of peace between Egypt and Israel.

The minister expressed his deep disappointment over Cairo's policy toward Israel. He feels that Egypt is returning to the Arab world at the expense of its relations with Israel. This policy, side

by side with the military growth, are reasons for concern. Egypt is not outside the Arab world and there exists the danger of an Arab front being created that will fight as one body against Israel, the defense minister said.

The two senators did not agree with the minister on the threat posed by Egypt. The emphasized that most the weapons with which the Egyptian Army is equipped are old, and part of them Soviet-made. The guests said that the new arms are meant to preserve Egypt's strategic balance with Libya.

Radio Reports 'Ali Message, Jordanian Elections

TA051805 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Let us now go over to our correspondent Aharon Barne'a who has two fresh reports for us. One is that an urgent message has arrived from Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali to the prime minister of Israel, and the second concerns Jordan and the possibility of the establishment of a new government there. Here is Aharon Barne'a.

[Barne'a — live in studio] First, reliable sources in Amman reported a few minutes ago that a new government will apparently be established in Jordan next week and it will be headed by (Ahmad al-Lawzi) who is now the court minister in the Jordanian Government. The establishment of the government follows the reconvening of the Jordanian Parliament after being frozen for 9 years, following a legislative amendment agreed to by King Husayn today in the wake of a government decision. According to this amendment, general elections will be held in the East Bank in which new representatives will be elected to the parliament to replace those who have died since 1967, when the last elections were held. The second amendment is that there will also be internal elections to choose representatives from the West Bank, from Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. Observers in Amman regard the renewal of parliamentary life as a move by King Husayn to prepare a tool for himself to represent both banks of the Jordan River. Through this it will be easier for him to deal with possible negotiations over the future of the relations between Jordan and the Palestinians. Let us recall that the last elections were in April 1967 and the parliament's activity was frozen in 1974, following the Rabat summit resolutions. There are 60 members in the Jordanian Parliament, 30 of them from the West Bank.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali sent an urgent letter to Minister Shamir saying that Egypt refuses to accept the Government of Israel's decision to make the State of Israel's laws applicable to the settlements in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. Egypt condemns this decision and demands that the Government of Israel cancel the implementation of the laws. This was reported a few minutes ago from Cairo. In the letter Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali claims that this is a violation of the Geneva agreements, of the UN Charter, of Resolution 242, and of the peace agreement. The letter was given today by Assistant Foreign Minister Ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid to Israeli Charge d'Affaires in Cairo David Sultan. Similar letters have also been sent by 'Ali to the United States, France, the UN secretary general and the UN Security Council. Egypt, it says, regards this — the actualization of Israel's laws in the settlements in the territories — as the imposition of de facto Israeli sovereignty over conquered territory.

Shamir 'Pragmatic' on UNIFIL Security Role

TA060830 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 6 Jan 84 p 1

[Report by David Landau]

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir is "entirely pragmatic" regarding the idea that UNIFIL might assume a security-buffer role in southern Lebanon, an aide to Shamir told *THE JERUSALEM POST* last night.

The idea of involving UNIFIL has been advanced by former prime minister Yitzhaq Rabin. Rabin proposes that the force take over the area between the Al-Awwali and the Az-Zahrani rivers as part of a security system that would involve local militias too (to be deployed south of the Az-Zahrani) and would facilitate the IDF's withdrawal.

Shamir's aide said the premier's position would be shaped by his assessment of the likely effectiveness of the force, and by the prospects of the UN Security Council's instructing it to assume this new role. The premier harboured no prejudices againt UNIFIL.

Most senior government officials in Jerusalem seemed to think it unlikely that the Security Council would agree to amend UNIFIL's mandate.

Well-placed international observers were also sceptical, given the strained state of super-power relations at this time.

Other diplomatic sources questioned by *THE POST* believed, however, that the Soviets would allow the measure to go through the Council if both Lebanon and Syria desired it.

Yitzhaq Rabin argues that the Syrians and the Soviets "would rejoice" at the idea, since it would hasten the departure of the Multinational Force from Beirut and of the IDF from the south.

Rabin says the Israel Government has been remiss in failing to canvass the idea. But a senior government official indicated that the idea had often been considered, but had been discounted as impracticable.

Rabin maintains that UNIFIL, formed after Operation Litani in 1978, was largely effective in preventing PLO incursions — and it was for that reason that the PLO resorted to long-range artillery shelling.

Meanwhile, Israeli officials have welcomed the news from Beirut that a security agreement there is nearing conclusion. The officials hope the agreement will hold, and will enable units of the Lebanese Army to descend southwards along the coast towards the Al-Awwali.

The officials say they await the day when the Lebanese Army can cross the Al-Awwali and take over areas now held by the

Israel Defence Forces (as provided in the May 17 Israel-Lebanon agreement).

Shamir will hear first-hand reports today on developments in Beirut and on Syrian positions from U.S. special envoy Donald Rumsfeld, and (separately) from Senator John Tower, both of whom are due in Jerusalem from Damascus this morning.

Rosenne, Shultz Discuss Lebanon Security Plan

TA060548 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Report from Washington by Connie Lonn — recorded]

[Excerpt] As the plan [for Lebanon's security unfolded, Israel's Ambassador to the United States Mr Me'ir Rosenne asked to visit the State Department to meet with Secretary Shultz about it and other matters. Afterwards, Israeli and U.S. officials were most circumspect in their comments; but Ambassador Rosenne gave the impression Israel will offer no roadblocks to it:

[Begin recording] [Rosenne] It was a very constructive and friendly meeting on bilateral problems concerning the two countries.

[Question by unidentified correspondent] Could you tell us what your government's view is on a possible reconciliation agreement in Lebanon?

[Rosenne] We hope that the national reconciliation talks will succeed and that Lebanon will be able to regain its independence, free of any foreign presence.

[Question by unidentified correspondent] What is the relationship in your mind of that agreement to the possible withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon?

[Rosenne] As we have always said, we do not intend to stay in Lebanon; we don't intend to proceed with the annexation of one square inch of Lebanon. We want to make sure that all foreign forces withdraw from Lebanon and that this country could regain its national independence. [end recording]

IDF Patrol Near Sidon Fired At; No Casualties

TA061038 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1021 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Text] Light weapons fire was opened about an hour ago at an IDF patrol that was driving north of Sidon. There were no casualties. The IDF forces returned fire at the place where the terrorist squad was hiding.

Our correspondent in the north, Menahem Horowitz, reports that this is the fourth terrorist attempt in the last 24 hours in the Sidon area.

Press on Lebanese Agreement, Economic Situation

TA060816 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0430 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Review of the morning press editorials]

[Excerpts] *HA'ARETZ* says that if it is confirmed that the Israeli Government approved that part of the Saudi plan calling for a cease-fire in the Ash-Shuf mountains and the 'Alayh area, then there will be an unofficial agreement between Jerusalem and Damascus to implement a cease-fire agreement which would allow Al-Jumayyil's Government to take control of about one-third of Lebanon. It is not certain whether the various militias will act in accordance with this plan, but Syria and Israel will probably be able to influence the forces supported by them to act as demanded in the agreement. Although this mutual understanding between Damascus and Jerusalem is tacit, it can open new channels for treating the chronic problem called Lebanon. The easing of tension between Washington and Damascus can also help in this direction.

DAVAR writes that Washington is probably interested in quick progress toward the creation of an internal situation in Lebanon that will allow the Marines to withdraw many months before the presidential elections, thus demonstrating a successful conclusion to the mission. There are many signs that, contrary to the past, Damascus is now willing to act in a way that will encourage such a settlement. Whatever the reasons, this is another move toward the United States after the release of the U.S. pilot this week; and the United States can be expected to welcome this development. Such a development will not necessarily have an adverse effect on U.S.-Israeli relations. This depends to a large extent on the wisdom of our behavior.

THE JERUSALEM POST says that all that keeps the government coalition together is fear: Fear of the electorate, and fear of defection to the opposition. This cannot be a sound basis for a government, or a healthy condition in which to confront a domestic crisis. Mr Shamir should recognize the emergency and decide whether to prefer national rescue by an agreement with the Labor Alignment, or deepening national disarray.

MA'ARIV Analyzes Impact of Air Strikes

TA051619 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 5 Jan 84 p 8

[Commentary by Moshe Zaq: "Delayed-Action Bombs"]

[Text] The announcement from Damascus about the Israeli Air Force strike against terrorist bases in the Syrian-controlled Al-Biqa' said that the Syrian antiaircraft defense went into action against the Israeli aircraft which left delayed-action bombs behind them.

The Syrians, who have in the past bragged about the efficiency of their antiaircraft defense, were indirectly forced to admit this time that many planes had been involved and that they had succeeded in dropping their bombs on various targets. However, these were delayed-action bombs and that is why there were many casualties.

Since this Syrian antiaircraft defense managed to hit two U.S. aircraft — one of which carried Lieutenant Goodman who has just been released from imprisonment — the operation of the Israeli Air Force should be highly appreciated.

Those of us who are not in the frontline take for granted the announcement that "all our planes have safely returned to their bases." However, an operation such as the one carried out yesterday by a large number of aircraft — as the Lebanese and the Syrians announced — and notwithstanding the fact that the hits were efficient and on important targets, the "safe return" deserves a special blessing.

In their official announcement about the Israeli delayed-action bombs, the Syrians may have tried to say that this is actually Israel's delaying tactic before it packs up and leaves Lebanon. After all, the picture emerging in Damascus is that pressure is mounting in all the Western capitals to pull their troops out of Lebanon. The demand is increasing in Washington, Paris, London and Rome to pull out their troops from the Multinational Force. Therefore, Damascus assumes that the United States will ultimately leave Lebanese soil along with its European allies and that eventually even Israel will be forced to withdraw and then Syria will come out the winner. Syria will then actually rule over the whole of Lebanon, even if Amin al-Jumayyil continues to sit in the B'abda Palace. Yesterday's bombardment in Al-Biqa' — even if this was not the intention of those who made the decision — made it plain to the Syrians that in the absence of an arrangement with Israel, their stay in Al-Biqa' or elsewhere in Lebanon will not be easy.

In addition, 2 days ago, Israeli Air Force planes bombarded Al-Biqa'; also 2 days ago there was an air strike on Abu Musa's [Sa'id Musa Muragha] terrorist headquarters. However, since the Syrian antiaircraft defense, its cannons and missiles, were not put into action, the political and psychological impact of the strike was very limited. The antiaircraft defense was activated yesterday; therefore there was great damage and many calls for help. The Lebanese radio stations last night reported that the number of casualties in the "Sadr" training center of the Iranian Shi'ites and in the neighboring "Musa" camp stood at 100 dead and hundreds wounded.

Of course, nobody in Israel gloats at the sight of destruction and killing. Presumably, that was not the intention of those who ordered the planes to set out on their attack. Their intention was, first and foremost, to prod the death-happy "potential suicidals" to fulfill their goal without hurting Israelis, Americans, Frenchmen, and Lebanese in the process — in other words, to curb the Khomeyniistic drive to hurt Jews, Americans and Frenchmen. This drive has gone beyond Lebanon's boundaries and reached as far as southern France where Iranian Shi'ites planted explosives and attacked civilians. This was an ungrateful move on the part of Khomeyni and his men toward France whose hospitality they exploited to steer the revolution against the Shah. The various "suicidals" may not learn their lesson from the Israeli air strikes of the last 2 days but at least Hafiz al-Asad will. He is once again in charge in Syria and does not want to commit suicide and go for broke.

Al-Asad probably remembers that his predecessor was driven away from his post when he started a confrontation with Jordan and ultimately got entangled in a dangerous confrontation with Israel and the United States in September 1970. Hence, Al-Asad will have to measure his moves very cautiously, even if for one moment it appears to him that the entire U.S. alignment in Lebanon is collapsing.

The reports that arrived from Beirut yesterday to the effect that Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has again worked out an interfactional dialogue in Lebanon may give the Americans — if they so desire — the "redeeming formula" to pull the Marines out of Lebanon without losing their prestige. If internal pressure increases in the United States, they will be able to hang on to some kind of formula to justify their pullout. However, President Reagan and his close aides know that it is not a formula, but rather the extent to which Syria's influence will increase in Lebanon that will tip the scales. The president also knows that he rather than Israel was the first one who raised the demand to drive the Syrians out of Lebanon. It was the United States that asked us not to withdraw from the Syrian line when the IDF was moving its forces from Ash-Shuf mountains to the Al-Awwali River.

Before the Israeli withdrawal from Ash-Shuf mountains the Marine commanders at Khaldah did not realize that the IDF was actually protecting them, and they urged the IDF to get as far away as possible from their positions. After the IDF's withdrawal from Ash-Shuf mountains, the Marines realized that they had actually been exposed to a confrontation with the terrorists. It was this confrontation that increased the pressure of U.S. public opinion. This pressure has not yet been reflected in the field in Lebanon. All the elements operating in Lebanon who support Al-Jumayyil agree on the need for constant pressure on the terrorists. [sentence as published]

If public pressure in Paris, Washington, and Rome forces their respective governments to pull their forces out of Lebanon, it will be necessary to redeploy, not just shorten the frontlines to reduce casualties, all other foreign forces in Lebanon, because the Al-Jumayyil regime would not then otherwise be able to survive for long.

Syria will probably also in the future take pains not to have its Army enter Beirut. It will look for "surrogates" ["mal'akhey sharet"] such as the ones it has been using in the last few months in all its struggles and battles. It will probably also try to appoint a prime minister of its liking instead of Shafiq al-Wazzan. Moreover, the warning delivered to Syria yesterday by the Israeli Air Force will prove to it that without an arrangement with Israel its stay in Al-Biqa' will be difficult. Therefore, the possibility should not be ruled out that Syria may look for a way to make a tacit agreement with Israel in Lebanon — and Israel should even be prepared for this eventuality. Meanwhile, Israel must prove that it is fulfilling its part in the agreements.

As long as the United States and Lebanon do not go back on the agreement of 17 May, Israel must also adhere to it. This will also be a good sign to the Syrians if and when they are ready for an unwritten agreement with Israel.

Israeli Arabs 'Disappointed' With Shamir Meeting

TA060912 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 6 Jan 84 p 12

[Report by Qasim Zayyad]

[Text] Arab dignitaries, including Knesset members, heads of local councils and others, have expressed their disappointment about the meeting with the prime minister 2 days ago.

MK Muhammad Watad said: "Instead of addressing the relevant issues, the prime minister merely made general and noncommittal remarks, and this seriously disappointed the participants in the meeting." MK Watad expressed surprise at the demand raised by some of the participants to expand the authority of the office of the prime minister's adviser on Arab affairs. Watad said: "We do not want this office to have privileged authority at the expense of government offices; and we do not need defense attorneys to intercede between us and those offices." According to him, this was a traditional meeting of Arab dignitaries rather than that of public figures who are fighting for the interests of the people they represent.

The head of a local council in the Triangle who attended the meeting with the prime minister said: "We came out of the meeting just the way we entered it, without any significant results." He added that the prime minister should have come out with clear-cut answers to the issues and questions raised. "The prime minister should have studied the issues before meeting us, because the condition of the Arab inhabitants calls for a thorough examination and a far-reaching policy change," he noted.

The head of the Kafr Qari' local council, Attorney Muhammad (Masrawwa), who did not conceal his disappointment about the results of the meeting, concluded: "The disappointment is as great as the expectations. We had big expectations and these were not fulfilled."

Karp on State of Law Enforcement in West Bank

TA051027 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 5 Jan 84 p 2

[Report by Barukh Me'iri]

[Text] Deputy Attorney General Yehudit Karp believes that the state of law enforcement in Judaea and Samaria has not only not improved, but has even worsened in certain areas.

In a letter she sent to Justice Minister Moshe Nisim a few days ago, she points to the fact that since she wrote a report on this issue some 8 months ago, nothing has changed and the faults have not been corrected.

In her letter, Attorney Karp mentions several recent instances in Judaea and Samaria pertaining to law enforcement in those areas and the way the police mishandled them.

Asked to comment on the letter of the deputy attorney general, the Justice Ministry spokesman last night said that "the Justice Ministry does not comment in public on internal letters." Nevertheless, he pointed out that the issue of law enforcement and the maintenance of public order in Judaea and Samaria is of top priority to the Justice Ministry. According to him, this is attested to by the fact that three ministers are currently handling the issue.

The defense, interior, and justice ministers have recently formulated a new policy regarding law enforcement in the territories. This plan will soon be presented to the Cabinet for approval.

It seems that the main points of the new plan involved additional manpower, particularly policemen, and a meticulous check of the weapons held by civilians. Also, courts will be opened in the large cities in Judaea and Samaria.

New Monthly Covers West Bank Opinions

TA051235 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 5 Jan 84 p 9

[Article By Tali Zelinger: "What They Are Saying in the Territories"]

[Text] What do the Arab inhabitants of the West Bank and the Gaza district think about the rebellion in Fatah ranks, the attack against the bus in Jerusalem, and the economic situation in Israel? How is the visit by the dismissed Gaza mayor, Rashad ash-Shawwa, to Egypt, Jordan, and England being covered? How is the religious activity in Gaza, the intention to establish a national Palestinian front, the possibilities facing 'Arafat, and the Palestinian problem being expressed in the local press?

A pink booklet, the first of its type, which is currently being distributed by the adviser on Arab affairs in the office of the coordinator of activities in the territories, gathers information about what is happening in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza district, relying on overt sources. It is a review of articles in the local Arab press and translation of excerpts of articles.

The booklet is called *INFORMATION* [Meyda'] and includes pertinent information from November-December 1983. The intention is to put out such booklets once a month or once every 2 months, with a willingness to change the format of the booklet in accordance with criticism of the first edition. The booklet's distribution is widespread and aimed at Cabinet ministers, Knesset members, the Israeli police force, the IDF, local councils, universities, and the free press. The last pages of the first booklet are devoted to a review of the civilian administration's activities and brief reports.

From a study of the first booklet it emerges that the choice of material was biased; however, something of the current moodcan be learned, even though it is impossible to know to what extent the various articles reflect the views of a majority or a minority. The booklet prints a religious tract distributed in Gaza after the murder in the Hebron Islamic college, in which the "masses of our Muslim people" are called upon to "fight the Jewish conquerer using all means and everywhere," and an article by an Arab lawyer (the name of the paper in which the article appeared is not given) calling upon the Palestinian nation to refrain from internal disputes and violence toward others and begin to deal with its humanitarian problems.

The economic situation in Israel is reflected in the reactions of the owner of a grocery store, the owner of a shop for household goods, the owner of a bakery, the owner of a butcher shop, and the owner of a clothing store, all of them inhabitants of Nabulus who took part in a poll conducted by the editor of *AL-FAJR*. Most of them speak of an almost complete commercial freeze.

The booklet's publishers, the office of the coordinator of activities in the territories, say that they responded to appeals by civilian administration staff and raised their employees' salaries by 15 percent since October, above and beyond the cost-of-living increment.

Major General, Reserves, Professor Moshe Sharon, the adviser on Arab affairs, who issued the information booklet, explained in his introductory remarks that it is intended to fill in what many people lack who cannot reach this material, and "get a regular picture of what is going on."

West Bank Journalist Forbidden Exit to Jordan

TA060923 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Text] The military government in Judaea and Samaria will not permit the journalist Raymonda at-Tawil to travel to Jordan in order to participate in a live German television program dealing with the Palestinian question. The program will take place next Monday, and among those participating will be Willie Brandt, Bruno Kreisky, and Uri Avneri.

Our correspondent Shalom Oren has learned from the office of the coordinator of activities in the territories that the prohibition stems from security reasons. Raymonda at-Tawil expressed her sorrow at not being allowed to travel to Jordan. She believes the action is motivated by the desire to forbid the peace camp in Judaea and Samaria from expressing itself.

An-Najah Student Union Reacts to Arens Remarks

TA051742 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1651 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Jerusalem, 5 Jan (ITIM) — The An-Najah University student union has issued a communique reacting to statements made by Defense Minister Moshe Arens during a Knesset debate on the territories held on Tuesday. The student union claims that Minister Arens's comments were intended to prepare the public for the intention to shut down the An-Najah University, which has currently been subjected to great harassment by the Israeli army.

It further contends that recently the IDF has placed barricades at the entrance to the university for 31 days, and adds that the IDF has likewise carried out extensive arrests among the students. At the moment, 18 students are imprisoned, including the head of the student union, ('Adnan Milhim). Five other students have been in jail since the beginning of the academic schoolyear.

Three Settlement Cells Established in Gaza

TA041646 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1530 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Text] Gaza, 4 Jan (ITIM) — Three settlement cells for non-religious people have recently been established, in anticipation of actual settlements in the Gaza district next year. They were set up by the Development Towns Advisory Bureau in conjunction with the council of Jewish settlements in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza district.

This was reported by Zohar Gindel, the director of the Development Towns Advisory Bureau, who added that the settlement cells have been established in pursuance of the Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza council's settlement drive held last summer.

He claims that two of the settlement cells are planning to set up two communal rural settlements, and the third is for an urban settlement.

At present the three cells number some 250 families, to which another 300 families — who have long been registered with the Gaza district local council in the hope of settling there — will be added.

Work Begins at North Gaza Settlement Site

TA051750 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1655 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Ele Sinay, 5 Jan (ITIM) — Infrastructure work for the Ele Sinay settlement in the northern part of the Gaza Strip began this week, following postponements and deliberations that lasted about a year with the various settling bodies.

The settlement was planned by the Yamit evacuees, and was established more than a year ago, but because of deferral of budget approvals, no work has thus far been carried out there, and only two families have been residing there during that period. This week heavy equipment arrived at the place to prepare the ground, and at the first stage the infrastructure for some 160 housing units will be prepared.

The initiator of the idea of establishing the settlement, Mr Avi Farhan, who was formerly one of the leaders of the movement to stop the withdrawal from the Sinai, told ITIM that the settlement is intended to serve as a communal center for all the settlements planned for the northern Gaza Strip region, and added that the plan is also to develop there maritime tourism and science-based industry.

Meanwhile it has been reported that the Jewish agency's land settlement department chief, Mr Matityahu Drobles, toured the Gaza District together with a group of planners, at the request of the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs, which decided some time ago to take some action to promote settlement in the Gaza district, after first establishing that there is a demand to settle in that part of the country.

As will be recalled, the Development Towns Advisory Bureau at the time launched a campaign to register families for settlement in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza district settlements, and then more than 1,500 families expressed their desire to register. However,

the plans that have so far been made cannot meet these demands. According to the new plan, another bloc of settlements — similar to the bloc that already exists in the Qatif bloc — will also be established in the northern part of the Gaza Strip, between Dayr al-Balah and Khan Yunus.

DAVAR on 'Creeping Annexation'

TA041246 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 4 Jan 84 p 7

[Commentary by Dani Rubinstein: 'Seal of Approval to Creeping Annexation"]

[Text] Reality in the form of segregation in the West Bank and in Gaza is gradually receiving a legal and orderly seal of approval.

Those who support the government's policy and demand full Israeli sovereignty over the territories realize perfectly well that total annexation of the territories by Israel is out of the question. Ostensibly one could extend Israeli law to apply to the territories, as was the case in East Jerusalem, and not let the Arab residents have the right to vote in the Knesset elections (leaving them with a status of foreign residents, the foreign nationality being Jordanian). But that would be a forced and very difficult solution. If the territories are annexed in the same way East Jerusalem was, then Israel would have to apply numerous clauses to the territories concerning individual rights, freedom of expression, freedom to organize. Israel will have to pay huge sums in national insurance to the Arab residents, and so on and so forth. The efficacy of the military government, as well as of collective punishment, will be undermined badly. In short, it will not work.

Settlements are going up, Jewish housing quarters, and towns in Judaea and Samaria and Gaza, and tens of thousands of Israelis are becoming residents of the territories. Can their legal status be the same as that of the Arabs? Will they — Israeli citizens — also come under the authority of the military government? Government officials will have no choice but to extend Israeli law so that it applies to the territories as well, but only to the Israelis who live there.

A considerable number of Israeli laws are valid only vis-a-vis citizens or residents of Israel. This has to do with voting in the Knesset elections, performing military service, paying income tax, receiving national insurance, and engaging in licensed professions such as law and psychology. Problems in this respect have arisen in the past as well and were solved by amending certain clauses in the law. The same thing happened last week.

The draft bill that was approved by the Knesset, which extends the validity of emergency regulations regarding the West Bank and Gaza, has been augmented by a number of amendments, formulated in such a way as to ensure the establishment of a legal buffer and to establish the legal basis for discrimination against Arabs residing in the territories. This discrimination will apply to all spheres: to obligations such as tax payments and military service, as well as to rights such as national insurance and permits to engage in various professions. What do we do, though, if people go to the settlements who are not Israeli citizens? Therefore the new law states that for this purpose they will be deemed to be Israeli citizens, and this refers to residents of the territories, who are entitled to come to Israel as immigrants under the Law of Return (that is to say, Jews). In order to avoid any future problems on this question, the new law proposes "to authorize the minister of justice, with the approval of the Knesset Law, Constitution and Justice Committee, to alter the list of laws" (reference is to those laws appearing under this proposal). In other words, the minister of justice will be able, with the approval of the above named committee, to complete the extension of Israel's laws to apply to the settlers and to ensure that a complete separation is made between them and the penalties and laws imposed by the military government — these to apply to the Arabs only.

Even the opponents of annexation have no choice but to go along with the new law. After all, are we going to let the residents of Qiryat Arba' dodge their income tax payments? Nor is it conceivable that an attorney residing in Ari'el or anywhere else "ten minutes away from Kefar Sava" will practice his profession and thereby be considered to have broken the law. These discriminatory laws are imposed on us by the reality of the policy of settlement and annexation. These laws lay down the legal arrangements for an annexation that is increasingly being accomplished in the field. Those who fear that Israeli law will be fully extended to apply to the territories can rest assured. That will never happen. What is happening, however, is annexation under conditions desired and determined by the government — annexation by which the government and the settlers are the lords of the manor. The Jews are separated legally; and Israeli law prevails in the territories, only it sort of skips over the Arabs.

The situation evolving in the territories, then, is an extension of Israeli law, but with one exception: It does not affect the Arabs.

This deplorable regime, which already actively exists in the territories, is the price we are all paying. There are some who are very angered by this, but there are many more who have resigned themselves to it and say — there is no other choice, finding solace in citing defense-security justifications or even in Halachic verses quoted by the settlement rabbis. All these cannot change the ugliness and distortion of segregation legislation, Israeli style, in early 1984.

Jordanian Parliament Members Leave For Jordan

TA061047 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Text] At least nine members of the Jordanian Parliament who live in Judaea and Samaria have left for Jordan. Our correspondent Shalom Oren reports that 23 members of the Jordanian Parliament live in Judaea and Samaria. Since they do not need the permission of the military government in order to leave, it is not known how many of them have left.

The Syrian newspaper *AL-BA'TH* attacked King Husayn in its current issue, saying that he has no right to convene the parliament and that this amounts to cooperation with Israel.

Gazans Extradited From Egypt for Illegal Crossing

TA051743 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1650 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Beersheba, 5 Jan (ITIM) — Three Gazans have been turned over to the Israeli authorities by the Egyptian Army after having crossed the border to Egypt. The three were arrested today for 10 days by order of the Beersheba magistrates court, on charges of illegal departure from the country. The Egyptian Army authorities extradited the three Gazans at the Nizzana border terminal. The police detained them, and when they were brought before the judge to have their sentence extended, they said they planned to reach Yemen through Egypt, and join their families.

Major Sa'd Haddad Released From Hospital

TA050633 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] The militia commander in southern Lebanon, Sa'd Haddad, was released this morning from the Rambam Hospital after being hospitalized for a week, and was taken home by members of his family. Our correspondent Gabi Zohar reports that following the hospitalization, Haddad's condition has stabilized.

Peres Comments on Haddad Military Reinstatement

TA051125 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Commenting on the decision by a Lebanese court to reinstate Major Haddad in the Army with full rights, opposition Labor party leader Shim'on Peres said it showed Lebanese recognition of the need for a specialized force in the south. Peres was defense minister 7 years ago when Maj Haddad set up his militia. Peres called Haddad a courageous Lebanese patriot.

Rabbi Kahana Escapes Police Interrogators

TA051723 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Kakh movement leader Rabbi Me'ir Kahana has escaped jail. Our correspondent Shlomo Raz reports that in the course of his questioning in the Jerusalem district police department, Kahana took advantage of a momentary lapse of attention by his interrogators to flee. He and two other colleagues were apprehended earlier this afternoon after having flown banners saying: "I support TNT" [Terror Against Terror].

LIBYA

Political Editor on 'Shameful' Egyptian Policies

LD051109 Tripoli JANA in English 1009 GMT 5 Jan 84

["JANA's Political Editor Calls for Increased Opposition to Capitulationist Line" — JANA Headline]

[Text] Tripoli, Al Ahram 1, Jan 5, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Usama al-Baz, the first undersecretary at the Foreign Affairs Ministry of the Egyptian regime and Husni Mubarak's special envoy to the other two capitulationist and compromising countries, Iraq and Jordan, said that the next step will concentrate on compromise and consolidation of relations with the Zionist enemy within the context of Camp David.

In a statement made after his return from Baghdad and Amman, he said that the Egyptian regime will be a party in the negotiations between Yasir 'Arafat and King Husayn, in preparation for direct negotiations with Israel. The JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY's political editor commented on the statement by the Egyptian official, which is the basis of the Egyptian regime's capitulationist and shameful policies and said that Arab commitment to a strategy to defeat the Zionist enemy and its allies has become a meaningless statement without any value because some treacherous leaders removed the masks from their faces, showing their true, ugly, treacherous character and submissiveness to the Israelis and the U.S.

Husni Mubarak officially announced yesterday that a war against Israel is of no use...

And Egypt has decided to take the path of compromise after it tried wars, saying that every war must eventually end up on the negotiating table. King Husayn preceded him in announcing his keen readiness to negotiate with the Zionists with a Palestinian mandate for coexistence — with the Israelis, the enemies of the Arab nation. He was supported in Baghdad by the president of the Iraqi regime, who blessed the current moves and preparations to complete the new rings in the treacherous Camp David chain. What next after this shameful subservience and after this race to give in and bow to the Zionist flag?

These treacherous leaders no longer have legitimacy, no boundaries, no constitutions, no laws. They have all surpassed those legitimacies. Their plans should be faced with widespread anger, so that the Arab soil would burn under the feet of those defeatists who undermine the Arab masses.

Maltese Prime Minister Concludes Visit

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Guests

LD051523 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Excerpts] The brother leader of the revolution received at noon today the Maltese prime minister, who was accompanied by Foreign Minister Alex Sceberra Trigona, Minister of Health Dr Vincent Moran, and Major General Cachia, chief of the Maltese Armed Forces. Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, also received Major General Cachia, chief of the Maltese Armed Forces, today.

Maltese Visitors Depart

LD052212 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Prime Minister of Malta Dominic Mintoff and the delegation accompanying him left Tripoli this evening after a short visit to the Jamahiriyah.

Before leaving Tripoli International Airport he made a statement to JANA in which he expressed his extreme pleasure and complete satisfaction with the results of his visit. He confirmed Malta's desire and determination to consolidate the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries in various fields. He confirmed the common determination of Malta and the Jamahiriyah to achieve peace and security.

The prime minister praised the steps made by the Jammahiriyah in building a better future for the Libyan Arab people. He also praised the measures and arrangements made by the Jamahiriyah in confronting the international economic crisis.

Concerning the situation in Lebanon and the presence of Zionist invasion forces backed by the imperialists, Mintoff once again strongly condemned the invasion of Lebanon by the Zionist enemy. He said that Malta condemns what Israel is doing in Lebanon, as theyhave clearly stated at the UN and other international gatherings.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Moroccan King's Adviser

LD051054 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0900 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] Tripoli 5 Jan (JANA) — The leader of the revolution yesterday received Ahmed Reda Guedira, personal adviser to Moroccan King Hassan II, and Moroccan Interior Minister Driss Basri. They conveyed a written message to the leader from King Hassan II.

MOROCCO

Hassan Meets Klibi on Summit Preparations

LD051250 Rabat MAP in English 1158 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Rabat, Jan 5 (MAP) — King Hassan II of Morocco Wednesday received Mr Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (O.I.C.). The royal audience was attended by Crown Prince Sidi Muhammad, minister of foreign affairs, Dr Abdelouahid Belkeziz, and the adviser to the king, Mr Ahmad Bensouda. After the audience, Mr Chatti told MAP that he had examined with King Hassan II the preparations for the fourth Islamic summit conference due to be held beginning Jan 16 in Casablanca. He added that the monarch was personally supervising all the preparations. "His majesty," said Mr Chatti "is keen on providing all guarantees to ensure the success of the Casablanca summit".

SUDAN

Mirghani To Convey Numayri's Message to Qabus

JN051218 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1015 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Khartoum, 5 Jan (SUNA) — President Numayri has sent a message to his brother, His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman on bolstering relations between both countries.

Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani, who left for Muscat yesterday, will convey the message.

TUNISIA

President Bourguiba Rescinds Bread Price Hike

LD061047 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1023 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Tunis, 6 Jan (KUNA) — President Habib Bourguiba of Tunisia announced today the rescinding of a previous government decision raising the prices of bread and certain foodstuffs that led to a wave of disturbances and acts of violence in Tunis, as well as a number of other Tunisian towns. President Bourguiba said in a statement to the people today that he has asked the government to prepare a new budget within 3 months.

President Meets With Mzali; Assembly To Convene

LD051408 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba held a working session this morning at the Republican Palace in Carthage with Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali and in the presence of Habib Bourguiba Jr, special adviser to the president of the republic, and Minister of the Interior Driss Guiga.

Mahmoud Messadi [speaker of the National Assembly] announced in the National Assembly that the organ will hold an extraordinary session to investigate, along with the executive authority, the recent painful events.

Further Reportage on Aftermath of Violence

Situation Described as Calm

LD051748 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] The police authorities of the Province of Tunis wish to inform all citizens that the situation is generally calm and security prevails throughout the province. There should be no cause for anxiety should shots be heard, as shots fall within the framework of precautionary measures necessitated by the state of emergency.

The police authorities of the province wish to advise people to dismiss rumors being spread to create anxiety and insecurity. It is our duty to be on the alert, and all citizens should be guardians of order and security, and must be alert to all the plots that are being hatched around them. They must also realize the need for security and the supremacy of law.

Safaqis Region Called Normal

LD051756 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] A working meeting took place this morning at the Safaqis governor's office and was attended by the secretaries of the party coordination committees. The meeting was devoted to considering the general situation in the Safaqis region.

The governor affirmed the return of normal conditions in the region, affirming at the same time the need for the continuation of a full alert.

The meeting also discussed the measures needed to implement social measures adopted by the government for the good of the poor.

National Assembly Issues Statement

LD051653 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] The Tunisian National Assembly has issued the following statement:

After listening to the opening speech by the president of the National Assembly concerning the hard times which the country is presently experiencing and the regrettable incidents that have ensued from the wave of violence, anarchy, and sabotage which have no justification whatsoever, and also concerning the measures taken by the government of His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba to maintain order and restore calm, and after listening to the interpolations by a number of the deputies who spoke on the same subject, the National Assembly, which is convening in a general session on 5 January 1984, wishes to express its strongest denunciation of the acts of chaos, violence, and corruption which the country has recently witnessed.

The assembly fully supports all the measures decided upon by the head of state so that the last word shall be for law and legitimacy, and so that the lives and private and public properties will be safeguarded. The assembly also expresses its appreciation for the firmness, faith, and work for the restoration of normal life shown by the Tunisian people, whom they urge to continue to be on full alert, to maintain their strong solidarity and unity, and to contribute most vigilantly toward protecting the nation and its security.

Information Minister Makes Statement

LD051753 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Members of the government and Socialist Party Political Bureau held a joint meeting this morning at Government

ment House in Qasbah under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister and party Secretary General Mohamed Mzali.

Following the discussions, Information Minister Abdelrazzak Kafi made the following statement: The Council of Ministers expressed its complete satisfaction at the firm decisions taken by the great struggler, His Excellency Habib Bourguiba, to restore order, to safeguard the state's prestige, to protect the private and public gains of the people, and to confront the sinister elements which sought to spread sedition and insecurity among the people.

The council denounced the criminal acts committed by these suspect elements — acts of assault on people and holy places, looting, and sabotage.

The council has noted with satisfaction the resistance shown by all elements of the people to these subversive practices, and their response to the security measures put into force. The council also lauded the national security forces and the Army for their sincere efforts to protect the people and the country and for the ability and courage they have displayed in taking control of the elements of anarchy and guaranteeing the security of citizens and the safety of their property, so that life may continue normally in this good land, and so that the supremacy of law may prevail above all.

The council wishes to declare to the nation that a large number of criminals, sedition mongers, and people who have committed acts of violence, terrorism, and looting have been arrested. A large quantity of stolen property has been seized. Preliminary investigations have resulted in important and clear confessions. On the instructions of the head of the state, these will be referred to the competent courts to try them most rigorously for the crimes they have committed.

The minister of the interior will give more details during a press conference he will hold tomorrow.

The council wishes also to praise the enlightened national stand adopted by the workers in all sectors, when they rose most vigilantly to confront the advocates of anarchy in order to defend their work and their means of livelihood.

The council greets all national organizations which rose to meet the situation and demonstrated concern for the fate of the country.

The council also praises the administrative machinery, public service workers, and various vocational sections such as peasants, industrial workers, businessmen, storekeepers, and bakers for the efforts they have exerted in various fields to insure the normal continuation of life.

The council has adopted a number of practical measures to guarantee public services and to insure regular supplies throughout the country.

The council reiterated that the measures taken with regard to the General Compensation Fund [sanduq 'amm li at-ta'wid] fall within the reform policy pursued by the government of the great struggler for the good of the true interests of the country now and in the future. In essence, these measures are meant to provide support for those who legitimately deserve it. This is the basis for decisions taken to provide just compensation to the social factions concerned. Several of these measures have actually been put into force, particularly with regard to the granting of social security aid to the needy in the form of regular grants and the opening of new centers for work, and the increase of daily wages for those working in these centers.

Just compensation will also cover other deserving factions such as retired people, widows, old people, and veterans.

With regard to workers in all sectors, the council familiarized itself with the contents of the talks which took place yesterday between a government delegation and a delegation representing the Tunisian General Federation of Labor.

The council expressed satisfaction at the preliminary agreement reached between the two sides concerning the granting of just compensation to the workers. The details of the agreement will be announced later.

The government and the Political Bureau affirm that the state is determined to continue development in all social and economic sectors, particularly those serving the interests of the poor and the most needy, and to save the country from all sinful attempts to divert the nation [al-majmu'ah al-wataniyah] from continuing along its course of creating conditions for progress and strength within the framework of constitutional legitimacy.

Paris Radio Correspondent Arrested in Tunis

LD060931 Paris Domestic Service in French 0900 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Excerpt] The special France Inter correspondent [to Tunis], Ulysee Gosset, was arrested this morning at his hotel together with his technician (Fabien LeClerc). The two men are currently being interrogated by the Tunisian police.

It should be recalled that Ulysee Gosset was the only foreign journalist to have obtained an interview with the general secretary of the main Tunisian trade union, an interview in which the man threatened the government with a general strike. Our colleague will undoubtedly be expelled.

Embassy Reportedly To Be Opened in YAR

LD300037 Riyadh SPA in English 1221 GMT 29 Dec 83

[Text] Tunis, Dec 29, SPA — Tunisia will open an embassy in San'a' Yemen Arab Republic next month, it was announced here today.

Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi said in a report to the Tunisian deputies council that such a move would reinforce bilateral relations.

CHAD

Libya, USSR Seen Attempting To Thwart OAU Meeting

AB051640 Paris AFP in French 1442 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Ndjamena, 5 Jan (AFP) — Chadian Foreign Minister Idriss Miskine spoke in Ndjamena on Thursday of "Libyan, and perhaps even Soviet pressure" on current OAU Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, the Ethiopian head of state, aimed at "frustrating the success" of the Addis Ababa meeting on the Chadian conflict scheduled to begin on 9 January.

In an interview with AFP, Mr Miskine refused to specify whether President Hissein Habre would personally go to the Ethiopian capital to participate in the debates aimed at fostering national reconciliation in Chad. "The Chadian Government will be represented," he merely said.

The Chadian foreign minister expressed "concern" about the outcome of the meeting. "Nothing is simple; the modalities for the impending discussions remain vague."

Mr Miskine then indicated that during his recent visit to Addis Ababa he did not meet Lieutenant Colonel Mengistu, who was officially said to be "ill," and that he did not, therefore, succeed in "removing certain ambiguities" about the organization of the conference, as he had wished to.

The minister confirmed that the OAU has sent invitations to "almost" all Chadian politico-military faction leaders who were signatories to the 1979 Lagos Accords, but he recalled emphatically that the Chadian state "will be present in Addis Ababa to hold talks with the opposition as a group."

Meanwhile, the Council of Ministers held a meeting on Wednesday for more than 7 hours on the Addis Ababa "expected phase."

In an official communique issued in the evening, the Chadian Government reaffirmed its willingness "to hold negotiations, without preconditions or exclusion, with all Chadians in the opposition and with those who are disgruntled in order to restore lasting peace in Chad based on respect for its territorial integrity and its unity."

The communique points out that "suggestions" prepared by the institutions of the republic had been put forward to the Council for appraisal. According to Mr Miskine, the Council made a synthesis of the recommendations after adopting several amendments.

The Chadian foreign minister refused to elaborate on these "suggestions," simply pointing out that they were "solid and institutional" and that the government in Ndjamena "was ready for any compromise without surrendering its principles."

"We shall make every concession we can," he added.

In a reference to the military situation in the north of the country, Mr Miskine described as "enormous" the concentrations and movements of the Libyan-Chadian forces hostile to President Habre's regime that have been spotted for several days in the region of Iriba (northeast).

After pointing out that the runways of Faya-Largeau and Fada could accommodate the large Libyan transport aircraft, Mr Miskine expressed the belief that "Tripoli was preparing a major blow to show the existence of its proteges," on the eve of the Addis Ababa meeting.

GABON

Andreotti Ends Visit, Announces Aid Program

AU051559 Rome ANSA in English 1545 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Excerpts](ANSA) Dakar, January 5 — Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti wound up a three-day visit to Gabon today and will arrive this evening in Dakar, Senegal, one of the Sahel nations hardest hit by drought and famine.

The most important result of Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti's three-day visit to Gabon was the creation of a joint intergovernmental commission that will coordinate and stimulate economic cooperation between the two countries.

While in Libreville, Andreotti officially announced Italian participation in a technical and financial assistance program in Gabon's fishing sector to the tune of 50 million dollars. Italy will also train personnel and provide assistance in forming small and medium-sized companies which could have long-term positive effects for Italy given Gabon's desire to reduce its economic dependence on France.

LIBERIA

All Envoys Accredited to Europe To Meet

AB042158 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Text] Foreign Affairs Minister Eastman today announced that all Liberian ambassadors accredited to Europe would be called to a meeting next week in Monrovia. He gave no reason for the call of the meeting.

'Possibility' of Reducing Embassies Studied

AB042228 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Text] The Government of Liberia is studying the possibility of reducing its embassies abroad, Foreign Minister T. Earnest Eastman hinted in Monrovia today. The minister said if the study is feasible, it will help to cut down on the extra fundings needed to upkeep embassies outside.

The foreign minister was speaking to newsmen at his Capitol Hill office immediately after performing the commissioning ceremony of Ambassador Ricks. Mr Eastman did not elaborate further, but told journalists that he would be making a trip abroad to assess the activites of the various Liberian missions in Europe. He said during the trip he would also meet with the country's honorary counsuls in that continent to find out whether they were operating in the interest of the Liberian Government.

Trial of Alleged Plotters Continues

AB042209 Monrovia Radio EWLA in English 1600 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Excerpt] The trial of the alleged coup plotters against the PRC [People's Redemption Council] government reportedly resumed at the Temple of Justice in Monrovia this morning with the chairman of the military tribunal, Major General Alfred Gayflor, presiding.

Although today's trial commenced as scheduled, the press was barred from entering the tribunal's chamber. No reason was, however, given for the refusal of the press coverage, but Chairman Gayflor said he will brief the press tomorrow.

According to our reporter, the 19 accused arrived in a motor van this morning at the Temple of Justice amidst hundreds of spectators that had gathered to glance at the accused. In a news conference yesterday, the chairman of the tribunal, Maj Gen Alfred Gayflor, said the accused will be tried on charges of high treason, contravention of PRC Decree No 2, and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. However, PRC Decree No 2 and the Uniform Code of Military Justice Act forbid the conspiracy of persons or security officers and government officials to engage in acts that will undermine the social and economic stability of the state.

Tribunal Denies Defense Motion

AB042231 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Excerpt] The Special Military Tribunal today denied a motion by the defense counsel in the trial of 19 persons charged with high treason not to try the 7 civilians implicated in the alleged coup plot to overthrow the PRC [People's Redemption Council] government.

Tribunal chairman Major General Alfred Gayflor, who disclosed this during a press briefing after the court met behind closed doors for several hours today, said the court has denied the motion because according to the charge levied against the accused, they could only be tried by the tribunal. The tribunal chairman said the accused are charged with high treason and violation of PRC Decree No 2 which, according to the Uniform Code of Military Justice, does not exclude any civilian to be tried by a tribunal.

NIGERIA

Buhari Grants Press Conference 5 January

AB051548 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1515 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Press conference by Nigerian Head of State Major General Muhammadu Buhari in Lagos on 5 January — recorded]

[Text] Gentlemen of the press: As you are aware, the Nigerian Armed Forces effected a change in the Government of Nigeria on Saturday, the 31st of December 1983, by constituting themselves into a Federal Military Government in replacement of the former civilian administration in the country. The Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1979 has been suspended excepting in respect of those sections of it which have been exempted. Details of the exemption will be indicated in the Constitution Suspension and Modification Decree to be issued in due course.

I have already stated in my maiden broadcast to the nation the reasons why the Nigerian Armed Forces intervened. However, for the avoidance of doubt, I will reiterate them. The Nigerian Armed Forces fulfilled their promise to end 13 years of military rule in 1979 when they willingly handed over the reins of power to the civilians. The essentials of good government as seen by the people of this country were contained in the provisions of the suspended 1979 Constitution, particularly Chapter 11 thereof, which relates to the fundamental objectives and the directive principles of state policy. However, the Nigerian people watched helplessly while over the succeeding 4-year period [words indistinct] the government of the Federation failed to provide even the minimum of good government. [Passage indistinct] The promise to import food items to provide for the shortfall in agricultural production was not fulfilled for the benefit of the people. (?Whatever) was brought in was either diverted, hoarded, or sold at prices beyond the reach of the (?masses).

The administration of the import license system was so corrupt that licenses were denied to genuine importers and manufacturers [words indistinct]. Fraudulent acts, armed robbery, et cetera, became the order of the day. [Passage indistinct]

These budgetary deficits were financed by either internal or external borrowing or both. [Passage indistinct] The indiscipline in the former government's spending pattern was even more pronounced in the external sector of the economy. The seriousness of this country's propensity to owe is reflected by the fact that out of every 1 naira of new money created, about 68 kobo is spent on imports. At 12.5 billion in 1982, imports were 5.4 billion and 3.4 billion higher than the levels of 1978-79 and 1980-81. Every increase in oil export receipts in a particular year was followed in a subsequent year by import liberalization leading to sudden jumps in imports. On the other hand, after a downturn in oil exports, imports take a longer time to [passage indistinct](?As an) objective of this administration, I should like to emphasize that its main preoccupation is to revive the Nigerian economy by efficiently exploiting and harnessing all available human and material resources in order to improve the quality of life of all Nigerians.

To this end, it will maintain national unity and stability to give the nation a better and more purposeful sense of direction; embark on a prudent management of the available resources and the diversification of the economy; achieve self-sufficiency in the production of major staple food commodities and essential raw materials within a targeted period; encourage labor-intensive projects with a view to creating more job opportunities; [words indistinct] large foreign exchange commitments; clean society of the cankerworm of aggressive corruption; (?maintain) law and order in ensuring the security of life and property and uphold the principle of public accountability and the encouragement of the development of improved work ethics among Nigerian workers; check the activities of hoarders, smugglers, and all other social and economic saboteurs.

Ladies and gentlemen of the press, I thank you for your patience in listening to the diverse factors that necessitated the change of government in Nigeria. I have briefed you on the main elements of the present state of the nation's economy and broadly outlined the plans and objectives for correcting the devastation to which it has been subjected within the last 4 years. There can be no doubt that this administration has inherited daunting economic problems which call for urgent solutions. The problems are indeed enormous, but we are encouraged by the massive support of the general acclaim of this administration by the Nigerian people. I am convinced that with this heart-warming support and God's guidance, we shall succeed. We will now proceed with our program of action.

Finally, I wish to reaffirm that Nigeria will continue to honor its international commitments at the multilateral and bilateral levels. We will maintain cordial relations with friendly countries based on mutual respect, sovereign equality, and noninterference in the internal affairs of each other. Thank you very much. [applause]

[Unidentified speaker] Ladies and Gentlemen, the head of state will take some questions. You will be identified, you move here, introduce yourself and the organization you represent, and then ask your question.

[(Segun Oteba), *DAILY SKETCH*] In your maiden speech, you said that the judiciary [words indistinct] subject to whatever decision the SMC [Supreme Military Council] may take later. May we know whether there will be some looking into the judiciary itself, because most people believe that it is not just the executive and the legislature that contributed to where we are, but that the judiciary itself as well as the civil service contributed in large measure to the situation in which we find ourselves now. But it seems you have told the permament secretaries and the judiciary to remain as they are. Are we to expect looking into where [words indistinct] things to remain as they are, sir?

[Buhari] As much as possible we wanted to maintain the basic freedom of all citizens. But you are innocent unless you are proved guilty. But our technique may be a bit unorthodox if we, in the process of re-examining institutions, find out that there are documents which we can recover from the police or other security agencies. But if some public officers have been covered up for whatever reason, we intend to unearth it and definitely try them accordingly. So the assurance I gave the judiciary and the civil service does not mean that those with bad records are going to survive what we are going to do. What I am trying to assure all Nigerians of is that whoever behaved himself and maintained faith in God, in himself, and his country, and the name Nigeria — nothing will happen to him whatever. But for those who abused their office, as long as there are records, they will definitely pay for it.

[(Yop Take), *TIME*] I believe one of the main sticking points in the discussions of the previous government with the IMF was the question of devaluation of your currency. Do you have anything to say about that?

[Buhari] Yes, we have some [words indistinct] but as you know, it is a very sensitive point. Nigeria is in such a vulnerable position now vis-a-vis the banks and other creditors I do not believe we are in a position to take a tough line from what I saw. That is why in this speech I thanked the officials who have been going up and down trying to persuade our creditors and the IMF [words indistinct]. We have to be careful about it, but our fundamental belief is that we would not be ready to mortgage our economy or our country to any other country. But if this has already been done by the former administration, perhaps we will have no alternative other than to accept some unpleasant terms to make sure that we continue to get raw materials at least to get factories open again and keep them as such so that they can [word indistinct].

[(Nwag Bonboy), NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA] In your broadcast to the nation, you expressed strong condemnation of the high level of unemployment in the country. But it is observed that in virtually all the states of the Federation, a lot of aliens, mainly West Africans, Asians, and Europeans, are occupying jobs in schools and colleges, jobs that require virtually no technical expertise and which can conveniently be done by Nigerians. Does your administration intend to do something about this situation?

[Buhari] The question of aliens, you remember, was tackled by the last administration or whatever you call it. Definitely, when we are in such a trouble, we will have to look after ourselves and then others. But do not forget we have this ECOWAS and I think there are some agreements about people coming here and going out. But what we will try and emphasize is that we make sure our law enforcement agencies and the immigration officers, especially the internal affairs, do really follow the rules and regulations, but definitely, it is going to be a case of Nigeria first and then anybody else.

[Alexander Thompson, BBC West Africa correspondent] During your statement earlier, you made no mention of any planned return to civilian [words indistinct], some form of democracy. Do you intend at some point to hand over to a democratically elected government? I also want to inquire about what [words indistinct] are, regarding the former leadership, in particular the former president, Alhaji Shehu Shagari?

[Buhari] To the question of returning to democracy, I [words indistinct]. We have not discussed it at the (?meeting) of the Supreme Military Council. What we do is to (?formally) inform the nation and the world. The next one about the leadership. We intend to hold the leadership until we are satisfied that some of the worst cases of mismanagement in terms of resources, are cleared.

[Chris (Okolie), *NEW TIMES*] In your address to the nation, you did inform the nation that the members of the administration will declare their assets. In fact, we have been informed that some members have already declared their assets. Will the administration be willing to make this declaration of assets public? Secondly, what specific criteria do your administration use in deciding which of the political leaders should be arrested? For example, Chief Akinloye has been declared wanted. Chief Adeniran Ogunsanya is sitting at home issuing orders and Chief Obafemi Awolowo and Dr Nnamdi Azikwe are resting quietly at home. They are all political actors. I do not know if you have any action planned against these people.

[Buhari] Firstly, on the question of assets. If I may go back to 1975 [words indistinct] of the late General Murtala in [words indistinct] we declared our assets when we went in. We redeclared them when we left off. And it was up to the succeeding government to investigate us or to find out what we have declared initially and what we have declared subsequently after leaving office to know if it is commensurate with our legitimate earnings or not. If they do not do it [words indistinct] I think either with the police or the Supreme Court, but we know we have declared our assets. What we intend to do now, we intend to do the same exercise. And we want the government that succeeds us to look into this and prosecute us. But what I believe is that no matter what you are feeling or what the general feeling is, those who are in government, they, too, are entitled to private life. For this reason, these assets, we will declare them under a judge, we will swear an oath and declare it and keep it and whoever wants it during our office or after we have left, he can get it. But we are not going to publish our private assets in newspapers. This I think, to be honest, we are not going to do.

Your second question on the criteria of arrests. I think some people are more wanted than others. That is all I can say. Of what reason will it be to get Awolowo and Dr Nnamdi Azikiwe here? Which government did they head? [laughter] He [Akinloye] did not head a government, but he was the chairman of the ruling party and they had been responsible or at least the caucus, and even government decisions had to be cleared by them and this involved a lot of heavy (?contracts) and so on. That is why we are looking for him. We will look for people whom we believe have something to explain according to what we have already got. But we are not going to unnecessarily get bogged down by activities of people we believed have no hand in it. But if we eventually come across them...[changes thought] because they too had [state] governments that were involved. They must have collected some contributions; public funds might have been diverted to party activities and I do not think there is any party constitution that says you should take public funds and use it for the party. (?It is for this reason) that we called on them to explain. But what we want to make sure is that those we get, they do not leave the country.

[(Obafe Silua), *DAILY TIMES*] I want to know from the head of state whether the military has any intention of setting up tribunals to judge cases of embezzlement and corruption and also cases of armed robbery which is rampant in the country at the moment? Thank you.

[Buhari] Well, the question of tribunals, I have not [words indistinct]. I will have to submit a memo to the Supreme Military Council to (?decide). On armed robbery, well, we have the police, they are reasonably equipped. We will encourage them but definitely, I have already told the Council of State they should go back and find out about [passage indistinct]

[(Yakubu Mohammed), *NATIONAL CONCORD*] We are all aware now about names of those who have been declared most wanted for criminal offenses. Are you going to envisage the support of Interpol [International Police] to get them back into the country, or in the event that you cannot get them, what is your plan to get the ill-gotten money from them?

[Buhari] [Passage indistinct] Why we want them, which means that we have already got some documents which we were looking for. We will try and see how serious the implications are. Definitely when they are criminals, that will give us the moral backing to approach those countries [words indistinct] ask them to please repatriate them and we will assure them that their trial is going to be fair. We hope they will send them back to us, because in some cases, the amounts [words indistinct] are substantial. On recovery of other monies, we will really try through diplomatic means and all other means to get the monies as quickly as possible, especially the money outside because we will try to do this as quietly as we can. I think that is all I can say about that, but keep watch [words indistinct].

[Question indistinct]

[Buhari] On this occasion, I think the question you asked is definitely too early for the regime. How old are we? We have to look at that cautiously and see what is possible. The unfortunate thing about the Nigerian public is that we are so gullible that everybody says he will provide free education, qualitative or unqualitative [laughter], and the result is that I think we are having no education at all. We have to look at this very seriously and we will honestly see what is going to be possible. For example, what is the point having a university of technology without a laboratory and (?technical equipment)? We will try to be honest with ourselves. The question of airlines or private helicopters flying for operations, I do not think we have stopped the airlines operating for oil. If anybody does this, I think it is over-enthusiasm, especially the helicopters to the offshore sites and other (?companies). We have never thought. [sentence as heard]

[(Kola Eyegblugba)] Since the military took over, there has been [words indistinct] of soldiers who flocked about the markets and cracked down on the sellers. And we had one version that they were unauthorized. I just want to know, sir, whether that is the policy of the new administration.

[Buhari] We have already sent (?a note) and they are off. I do not think there is any soldier in the markets anywhere in this country. The problem is that they know where some of the stores are. And they know that [words indistinct] there and sugar and so on. So they went there and opened all the stores. They have all been stopped. We have asked for a survey of the warehouses and what is inside and we will ask the owners to sell them.

[Felix Adenaike, *NIGERIAN TRIBUNE*] First question: The local governments are being returned to the number we had in the Shagari constitution. [Passage indistinct] The second one is about OPEC: I suppose your initial reaction to the OPEC problem was to give some reassurance. If at the end of the day you find Nigeria will need to lift more oil to meet its commitment and OPEC did not find itself in a position to accomodate that additional production, what would be your reaction? And the other supplementary question: How much was actually paid to this consortium of 70 banks? We have conflicting figures. Thank you very much. [Passage indistinct].

[Buhari] Firstly, on local governments [passage indistinct]. Now, in all honesty, how can you have the money to pay the unnecessary overheads of chairmen, of councillors, and all the parahernalia that goes with it? That is why you cannot find any drugs in any dispensary, you cannot maintain any small road with [words indistinct], you cannot pay teachers, you cannot do anything for the people. I have yet to see as dishonest a leadership as the one that has gone before. It is not possible for me to look after your people with the available resources, with such type. You cannot even talk in terms of percentage. It is bad and we are going to do away with it. People's sectional interests were worked up just to be exploited. They say: Yes, you are going to be on your own. There is going to be money. What did they get? No drugs, no equipment, no teachers teaching our children, absolutely nothing. That type of leadership we do not want. [Passage indistinct] Nobody is going to be transferred from, take, for example, from Maiduguri local government to go to Ikoyi local government and to become a chairman. The man has to be from there and he is going to look after his own people. And the money the government will give will get to him and he will look after his own people. Now just steal it away or (?exploit) [sentence as heard]. I think it is important that exploitation has to stop. But we will try to educate the people about it. Their resources will be taken to them and they will use it. Just a different pattern of leadership.

On OPEC, we have to be quick to say so, because there are other member countries who try to cause confusion in the oil market by speculating that we are going to panic and start selling oil cheap. We are in OPEC and even if we are going to change our opinion about OPEC, we are going to (?find) a consensus. This is what we plan. The question is whether if we went there and OPEC said no what can we do? They know the person who [words indistinct] had been persistent on going out of OPEC. There are other people who are even more persistent, but we should remain. Whatever we do, I assure you it is going to be in the interest of Nigeria and with the advice of the (?technicians) on the economy and the policy of oil. All that goes with it is not going to be an impromptu decision.

On payment, I think I am more realistic about these payments than you are. When it was announced I immediately called the permanent secretary, Ministry of Finance, and found out how they made their arrangement because the arrangement was over that weekend and I do not want to give details how we managed to pay that money, but we hope eventually we will tell you. But some money was paid to restore the confidence in this country by our creditors outside. Do not mind the amount. What is important I think, is the effect.

[Emeka Nadi Nanahu, Nigeria Television Authority] General, is it possible for you to let us know in very expansive terms what this administration intends to do to enhance productivity, particularly in the public sector? Are we going to see parastatals and public corporations operate in a manner that can be considered commercial?

[Buhari] I think some of you tend to ask me things that are not possible for me to say now. I told you the basic things that we intend to do now, but one of the most urgent ones is to make sure that licenses for raw materials which were being used by politicians as a sort of [word indistinct] given to political friends or others who [passage indistinct] things we know that were being done very wrongly we can in turn immediately correct, and that will certainly improve the flow of raw materials and (?employment). Others we have to study and bring before the Supreme Military and Executive Councils before they can take effect.

But I would not wake up tomorrow and say: Okay, Nigeria Airways is private. I have to look into the pros and cons of recommending such a decision to the council.

[Unidentified ASSOCIATED PRESS reporter] General Buhari, during the last military administration, Nigeria was noted for vigorous foreign policy with regard to African issues, notably South Africa, Chad, and the problem in the Western Sahara. During the civilian administration, it had been remarked that the foreign policy was less vigorous. What will be the foreign policy of your government, particularly with regard to southern Africa and Chad?

[Buhari] I think we are going to be consistent with the last military regime. We are an offshoot of that regime, but we are going to be — as I said in the first broadcast — we are going to be careful about it, for so many reasons, some of them I don't have to tell you. But we said Africa is our center of interest and we mean it.

On South Africa, we know the details, we will definitely equal the moral support we give to the Frontline States and to those who are doing the fighting, but what is going to be absolute next year is that if they want freedom they have to earn it and they have to earn it the hard way.

On Chad, which has been our neighbor, we will study the situation and we know a little bit about Chad having been personally involved. We hope the conflicting parties, as they have agreed to meet, I think some time in Addis Ababa, I do not know whether they have met or it would be some time during the week or next week, I hope they will try to come to an agreement. We are prepared — as a member of the OAU, within the context of the OAU — to offer any assistance our present economic resources could afford.

The same with Western Sahara. Morocco and those countries that feel strongly about it one way or the other, we hope will get together and accept the OAU decision on Western Sahara and again, just as in the case of Chad, Nigeria will be willing as a member of the OAU to participate in whatever decision the OAU and the parties agree jointly to take. Thank you.

AFP Gives Names of SMC Members, Others

AB041457 Paris AFP in English 1302 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Spelling of all names as received]

[Text] Lagos, Jan 4 (AFP) — Nigeria's new ruling Supreme Military Council, set up after last Saturday's military coup, is made up of:

— Major-General Muhammad Buhari, head of the Federal Military Government and commander in chief of the Armed Forces
— Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, chief of staff Supreme Headquarters
— Major-General B.Y. Bali, defence minister
— Major-General Ibrahim Babangida, Army chief of staff
— Commodore Augustine Aikomo, Navy chief of staff
— Air Vice-Marshal Ibrahim Alfa, Air Force chief of staff
— Major-General Mamman Vatsa
— Brigadier Mohamed Magoro
— Brigadier Sanni Abacha
— Brigadier Ola Oni
— Brigadier M.J. Nasco
— Brigadier Y.Y. Kure
— Brigadier Paul Omu (Navy)
— Captain Ebeto Okiwe
— Air Commodre Lawrence Koynian
— Colonel Salihu Ibrahim James Etim Nyang, inspector- general of police
— Mohamed Rafindadi, director-general of the Nigeria Security Organisation (NSO)
— Chike Offodile, attorney general and justice minister.

Brigadier Ola Oni has been appointed commander of the Army's First Mechanised Division, Brigadier Abacha is in charge of the Second Mechanised Division, Colonel Ibrahim heads the Third Armoured Division, Brigadier Kure is in command of the 82nd Division, and Brigadier Nasco heads the artillery.

NAN Provides Names of Military Governors

AB051213 Lagos NAN in English 1155 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Lagos, Jan 5 (NAN) — Seventeen newly-appointed military governors were sworn in yesterday by the head of state, Maj Gen Muhammadu Buhari, at Dodan Barracks.

The governors include: Brig Jeremiah Useni, Bendel; Maj Gen Abubakar Waziri, Borno; Navy Capt Edet Akpan Archibong, Cross River; Maj Gen Mohammed Jega, Gongola; Brig Ike Chuma Nwachikwu, Imo; Air Commodore Hamza Abdulahi, Kano; Air Commodore U. Muazu, Kaduna; Brig Mohammed Sani Sami, Bauchi; and Brig John Atom Kpera, Benue.

Others are, Group Capt Adebola Latinwo, Kwara; Group Capt Bgolahan Mudashiru, Lagos; Lt Col David Aligenu Mark, Niger; Col Donaldson Oladipo Diya, Ogun; Commodore Michael Bamidele Otiko, Ondo; Lt Col Oladayo Popoola, Oyo; Navy Capt Samuel Bitrus Atukum, Plateau; and Brig Garba Duda, Sokoto.

The governors for Anambra and Rivers Commander A.A. Madueke and Acting Commissioner of Police B. Netimah, respectively, were not present at the ceremony.

In a speech after the ceremony, Maj Gen Buhari told the military governors that their choice for this assignment was based mainly on their personal merit. He further said that their selection was as a result of confidence and their ability to discharge the responsibilities of a military governor in the best interest of the country. Maj Gen Buhari enjoined them to shun unnecessary publicity and make efforts to maintain good relationships with traditional rulers in their states. He said that where a state's council of traditional rulers existed it should not be disturbed provided that the councils had not been tampered with on political grounds.

Army Captain Detained Over Brigadier's Death

AB051220 Lagos NAN in English 1205 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Abuja, Jan 5 (NAN) — An army captain who allegedly shot Brig Ibrahim Bako dead in Abuja has been detained by military authorities, competent sources told the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) at the Federal Capital Territory.

According to the sources, the captain, whose name is being withheld, has confessed to shooting the brigadier during the attempt to foil the New Year Eve coup.

Meanwhile, officials of the banned political parties have continued to report to the various police stations in the Federal Capital Territory. Among those who have reported is the former senator representing Abuja, Chief Daniel Yankwo. Sources close to the police command told NAN that those who had reported were being questioned by officers of the Nigeria Security Organisation (NSO).

Reportage on Conditions in Federation's States

Anambra Governor Returning

AB051505 Lagos NAN in English 1445 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] New York, Jan. 5 (NAN) — The military governor of Anambra, Navy Commander Alison Madueke, yesterday left Washington for Lagos on the first leg of his trip home, to assume duties in Enugu. He took off after receiving an official message from the Federal Military Government, requesting him to do so, the New York correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) reports. Commander Madueke was, until his new appointment, the deputy defence attache in the Nigerian Embassy in Washington.

Former Gongola Governors Report

AB042112 Lagos NAN in English 1451 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Text] Yola, Jan. 4 (NAN) — The acting brigade commander of the 15 Mechanised Infantry Brigade, Yola, Gongola, Lt-Col. Okiki, has lifted the suspension order on 150 civil servants imposed by the ousted civilian administration on the eve of the Lt-Col. Okiki told newsmen in his office yesterday that this was in recognition of the "good conduct" of the civil servants. He ordered that the "general query" issued to some civil servants be set aside immediately.

Lt-Col. Okiki said that the response of the civil servants to his call on them to resume duty on Monday was "very much appreciated." He confirmed that the former governors of Gongola, Alhaji Abubakar Barde, Mr. Wilberforce Juta, and Alhaji Bamanga Tukur, as well as the former governor of Kano, Alhaji Abubakar Rimi, had reported to him, and were in "safe custody."

Meanwhile, Lt-Col. Okiki has ordered the road transport workers union and the motor park commission agents to end their dispute and co-operate in the interest of the "masses using public transport." "Any further disruption of public transportation in the state will be promptly dealt with by the military administration," Lt-Col. Okiki warned.

Soldiers 'Control' Sales in Imo

AB051004 Lagos NAN in English 0815 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Owerri, Jan 4 (NAN) — Soldiers in Owerri yesterday took over the control of the sale of some essential commodities at the main market, a correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) reports.

The correspondent, who went around the town, quoted the soldiers as saying that the action was to ensure that goods were sold at prices within the reach of every citizen. The commodities, which were sold at drastically reduced prices, included detergents, toilet soaps, sugar and assorted tins of milk. The largest size of Omo detergent, which formerly sold for 9.00 naira was sold for N2.50, Lux toilet soap was sold for 25 kobo each instead Peak milk for 20K as against 60K.

Oyo Governor Addresses Officials

AB051322 Lagos NAN in English 1300 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Ibadan, Jan 5 (NAN) — The governor of Oyo, Lt Col Dayo Popoola, today in Ibadan warned all civil servants with known political tags or leanings to take their entitlements and leave the service in their own interest.

In his maiden address to permanent secretaries in the state civil service, Lt Col Popoola said that the new administration had no place for double-dealing, adding that anybody discovered would not be spared. He said that the new administration would reduce waste both in personnel and in the use of government funds, materials and other resources. According to him, government cars would be attached only to permanent secretaries and other limited number of officers of similar grades, adding that the cars should be used strictly for official duties.

Lt Col Popoola urged all traders and businessmen in the state to steer clear of the twin evils of hoarding and fixing of what he described as unreasonable prices. He said that the state's economy should be given a new impetus from the "terrible and depressing" situation it was in. [Words indistinct] system in operation before October 1, 1979 would be affected.

He urged public servants in the state to give the new administration "absolute loyalty, absolute dedication, the highest integrity, demonstrable industry, indubitable efficiency, prompt attention to duty and palapable effectiveness." He said he would neither hesitate to clamp down on any erring civil servant nor punish any form of indiscipline with severity.

SENEGAL

Italian Foreign Minister Arrives in Dakar

AB060758 Paris AFP in English 0731 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Text] Dakar, Jan 6 (AFP) — Italian Foreign Minister Guilio Andreotti arrived here Thursday from Gabon for a three-day official visit to Senegal, to which Italian aid has sharply increased in recent years.

It included 2.35 million dollars worth of food aid last year. Rome has also granted 35 million dollars in credits to build a dam at Manantali. From this year, it will provide 50 million dollars for projects aimed at making the country self-sufficient in food.

UPPER VOLTA

Tribunal Acquits, Releases Sangouele Lamizana

AB052244 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Excerpts] The popular verdict was returned this afternoon at the overflowing People's Hall in the presence of several members of the Upper Voltan Revolutionary Government, including the commander in chief of the High Command of the National Armed Forces, the ministers of information, justice, rural development, and higher education and scientific research. Also in attendance was the president of the Supreme Court. Listen to the reading of the verdict by the president of the People's Revolutionary Tribunal [TPR]

[Begin recording] Considering the declaration of the TPR, which finds the accused, Sangouele Lamizana Aboubacar, not guilty of the charges leveled against him, the TPR proclaims the accused acquitted [applause]. The TPR orders the immediate release of the accused from detention [words indistinct]. [applause] [end recording]

ANGOLA

President Addresses Ceremony for Diplomatic Corps

MB051430 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and the president of the People's Republic of Angola, received New Year's greetings from the diplomatic corps accredited to our country at Futungo de Belas yesterday afternoon. The traditional presentation of greetings by the heads of diplomatic missions to the head of state began with a speech by the dean of the diplomatic corps, G.O. George, who is also the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

The diplomat assured the president that the group of representatives of countries and international organizations to Angola would continue to be loyal to the principles of mutual relationships based on friendship and understanding. He pointed out that they would never renounce their role as spokesman for the successes of the Angolan people in their triumphant march that began as soon as the country obtained its independence. The dean of the diplomatic corps also assured the president that the members of the diplomatic missions accredited to Angola would never remain indifferent to the efforts being made by the Angolan people in the defense of their revolutionary gains, which are constantly being threatened more directly by South Africa.

In response to the Nigerian diplomat, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos made the following speech:

[Begin recording] Your Excellencies, Comrades:

It is with great pleasure that I receive from your excellencies, heads of missions, and your wives the traditional New Year's greetings. I want to tell you that I welcome with satisfaction the cordial words of sympathy that the distinguished dean of the diplomatic corps has just addressed to the Angolan people and the Government of the People's Republic of Angola.

I wish to take this opportunity to wish you a happy and prosperous new year as well as the best of success in fulfilling the missions which the states and institutions you represent to the Government of the People's Republic of Angola have directed you to carry out in the establishment of relations of friendship and cooperation between our peoples.

Your presence at this ceremony demonstrates the good relations that exist between our countries and the mutual desire of our respective governments to further deepen these relations for the benefit of our peoples and the preservation of peace and understanding between nations.

We have been pleased to note the increase in the number of countries represented in the People's Republic of Angola despite the undeclared war that we face and its adverse effects in the economic and social areas. This is a good demonstration of the justness of the principles governing our foreign policy and of our political stands on bilateral relations and on the major problems facing the international community.

I can assure Your Excellencies that the Government of the People's Republic of Angola will not stop developing efforts to improve the relations of friendship and cooperation with other countries on the basis of equality and mutual respect. We want to improve our relations even with those countries that are hostile to us, either because they do not fully understand our objectives or because in the meantime they do not conform with our social and political reality.

We are an independent and sovereign country that is building its well-being in accordance with its options — a country that is always trying to contribute to the establishment of just relations between states and peoples for a better world of peace, liberty, and social progress.

Unfortunately, during the year that has just ended we witnessed a continued aggravation of the international situation with very serious effects on the underdeveloped countries. Besides the difficult economic and financial situation, hotbeds of tension have increased in all areas of conflict, be it in the Middle East, southern Africa, or Central America. Despite massive protests in Europe, weapons that are dangerous to humanity have begun to be deployed, thus increasing the danger that a nuclear war will be unleashed. The policy of detente was voted into oblivion and the uncurbed arms race stepped up. The dialogue between nuclear powers has become more difficult, as the interests of the peoples and workers are opposed to the interests of imperialism. The struggle for peace and for disarmament, which contradicts the egoistic designs of domination and exploitation of peoples by imperialism, will — in our understanding — be the only alternative to averting the danger of world war and ensuring the respect for the inalienable rights of peoples to independence and liberty. It is in this context that in southern Africa, where there is still no solution to the armed conflict in Namibia and the racist Pretoria regime is pitted against the SWAPO fighters, nor any solution to the policy of apartheid, which is viewed as a crime against humanity by the international community, that we are developing efforts to speed the application of the pertinent UN resolution. That is why we cannot remain indifferent to the build-up of South African troops and war equipment in the illegally occupied territory of Namibia. We cannot remain indifferent to the occupation of part of the Angolan territory and the mounting of successive aggressive actions by the Pretoria regime to maintain and expand this occupation within the framework of imperialist designs to suffocate our popular revolution and overthrow the legitimate Government of the People's Republic of Angola. Our people will respond with all means at their disposal to the treacherous attacks carried out by the regular army of South Africa in collusion with Angolan puppets and mercenaries from various nationalities.

I am certain that Your Excellencies will not stop mobilizing the support and the solidarity of your peoples and governments for our just cause. You are witness to the fact that the Angolan Government has a constructive spirit and is interested in the peaceful solution of the Namibian problem based on Resolution 435/78 of the UN Security Council. It is precisely on this basis

that we did not reject the 30-day period of truce proposed for Namibia. However, we believe that the truce should be considered within the appropriate context — that is, within the context of the application of Resolution 435 of the UN Security Council — and the Government of Angola will continue to demand the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the South African forces from its territory.

Let the year 1984 be a better year for all of us, a year that will bring about greater happiness for those who are truly fighting for peace, friendship, and just cooperation between peoples.

Thank you very much.

The struggle continues. Victory is certain. [applause; end recording]

FAPLA Reports 33 UNITA Dead in 16-23 Dec Actions

MB060846 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 06 Jan 84

[Text] As various battalions of our glorious People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] are heroically resisting the murderous fury of the vandals by repelling South African ground and air attacks in the area which has been affected since 14 December 1983, other units of our army are firmly and successfully carrying on the fight against banditry in other areas.

Thus, in the context of total annihilation operations against the puppets who have infiltrated from Namibia, which is illegally occupied by the racists, FAPLA killed 33 rebels, destroyed 3 enemy camps and captured 19 arms in 4 operations carried out in Cuanza Sul Province between 16 and 23 December. The biggest defeats inflicted on the gangsters took place on 16 and 18 December last year in areas located 16 km from Ebo municipality and 19 km from the Quibala municipality. Other clashes took place on 20 and 23 December 0.5 km from Quibala and 12.5 km from Conde commune in the same municipality, resulting in the deaths of more than seven puppets.

The success of the offensive against the agents of imperialism and Pretoria, which trains, finances, arms, and infiltrates them into the Angolan territory, thus constitutes further proof that the enemy will not succeed and that the Angolans are firmly behind their vanguard, the MPLA-Labor Party, are massively supporting their armed wing, FAPLA, and are determined to see to the end the current revolutionary process that began with the proclamation of independence.

The combat against banditry will continue until the puppet gangs, which are the loyal perpetrators of the plans of imperialism and Pretoria against Angola, are annihilated. The measures thus taken are meeting the expectations of the working and peasant masses, who have already given proof of revolutionary enthusiasm and of an ever growing determination to build a new society without exploiters or the exploited under our party leadership.

Portuguese Reaction to Oil Exclusion Cited

MB060710 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] The decision taken by the National Angolan Fuel Company [Sonangol] to exclude Petrogal from carrying out exploration activities in block 4 of the Angolan continental shelf has had great repercussions in Portugal. This was stated by the Angolan news agency in a commentary issued yesterday on this matter.

ANGOP says that the Portuguese mass media has issued a number of comments saying that the decision by Sonangol amounted to economic pressure by Angola to silence UNITA in Lisbon. However, the decision taken by the Angolan Government does not constitute a surprise in many other Portuguese circles, since it is in the context the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee's reassessment of cooperation with Portugal.

The People's Republic of Angola has always regretted the Portuguese policy of allowing activities in Portugal by elements hostile to its government which could at any time affect the normal relations between the two countries. Another aspect is that certain Portugese media circles have insisted, under the cover of alleged freedom of the press, on conducting anti-Angolan campaigns by promoting terrorist groups, one of which was created by the Police for the Control of Foreigners and Defense of the State/Directorate General for Security and (?is led) by racist South Africa. Those who were promised positions in an Angola controlled by UNITA and South Africa have deceived themselves (?while) challenging the sovereign organs of the People's Republic of Angola.

Trade cooperation between Angola and Portugal in 1983 experienced an increase of 162 percent, but after the decision taken by our authorities a question must be asked about the future of Angolan-Portuguese relations. Whatever their future, the responsibility will rest in the diplomatic circles of both parties, an Angolan diplomatic source in Portugal told ANGOP.

Meanwhile, a member of Petrogal's workers commission has already blamed the coalition government of the Socialist Party and the Social Democratic Party for this event. This is what can be interpreted from statements made by a worker of the Portuguese petroleum company when he said that Petrogal now finds itself jeopardized in the field of petroleum exploration in Angola due to Portuguese government policies.

Soviet, Hungarian Ambassadors Present Credentials

MB050949 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the president of the People's Republic of Angola, received at the Futungo de Belas yesterday the credentials of the new ambassadors from Hungary and the USSR accredited to our country. Comrade Paulo Teixeira Jorge, the minister of external affairs, was present at the audience.

Dr Andras (Vilany), the ambassador of Hungary, and Kalinin Arnold Ivanovich, the ambassador of the USSR, were thereafter

greeted by Ismael Martins, minister of foreign trade; Augusto Teixeira de Matos, the minister of finance; and Carlos Fernandes, the state secretary for cooperation.

MOZAMBIQUE

President Machel Delivers New Year's Address

MB301611 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1800 GMT 29 Dec 83

[Address to the nation by President Samora Machel marking the new year at a reception given for party and state cadres in Maputo on the afternoon of 29 December — recorded]

[Text] Mozambicans, compatriots and dear friends: The year 1983 is coming to an end. During this festive season we traditionally briefly review what was accomplished in the past year and draw up plans for the following year. We do this because it is our duty to examine the work carried out and gain lessons from our victories, as well as from our mistakes and inefficiences, in order to reinforce our consciousness as builders of the socialist fatherland.

Through party and state cadres, officials at various levels and other Mozambican citizens present here, we address ourselves to the entire Mozambican nation, to the millions of workers, peasants, soldiers, service and company workers, teachers, nurses, and other workers, to men and women, young men, who, assured of victory, do not spare efforts and sacrifice to make stronger and prosperous their socialist fatherland, to eliminate underdevelopment and armed banditry.

Compatriots, we experienced a difficult economic situation during the 1983. This resulted from external factors and the effects of natural disasters and our own inefficiencies. The external factors which most disrupted our economic situation were the actions of the armed banditry that were created and fomented by the racist regime of South Africa and the international economic crisis. The drought, which has effected vast regions of our country for many years, is estimated to have caused over 6 million contos in damage this year. However, no sum can describe the tragedy that has befallen the people in the areas affected by the drought, which has already caused tens of thousands of deaths.

We must point out the quick response from the international community to our request for assistance. The value of international support, mainly that in the form of foodstuffs and medicines, enabled us to minimize the disastrous effects of drought. We warmly greet all the peoples, governments, and organizations which have been supporting us in the fight against the effects of this calamity. The consequences of drought are aggravated by the criminal action of armed gangs, who try by all means to hinder production. They destroy plantations, plunder livestock and the few belongings the people have, and make it difficult to channel humanitarian assistance to the affected areas.

As a result of these negative factors, the levels of agrarian production declined during the year, notably with regard to the production of foodstuffs, such as corn and rice. In industrial production we noted failures, especially in the production of sugar and coal, the latter failure due to the interruption of its distribution system, as well as in fuels, because we were unable to buy the necessary quantities of crude oil. In the transportation field the amount of cargo carried by our railways system has decreased due to the continuing sabotage being carried out by the armed bandits, thus impairing the traffic to and from South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Malawi. As a result of this drop in economic output, our ability to import what we need for our economy has been reduced.

We have also assessed the negative impact of organizational shortfalls and problems related to the improper use of our production resources. The primary conclusion we have drawn from this is we have not been properly using the experience acquired in the liberated areas, namely to apply the principle of self-reliance and to regard man as the decisive factor of combat.

Amid this difficult economic situation we held the Fourth Congress. The Fourth Frelimo Party Congress has clearly defined the priorities for the present phase, namely the fight against famine and nakedness and the total and complete liquidation of the armed bandits. This definition of priorities was the result of the rich and profound reflection of the delegates to the congress on the experience of the first years of our independence and the causes of our present difficulties. The congress decided that in parallel with the major economic projects, which will be the backbone of our development, we must focus our attention on the satisfaction of the immediate requirements of the peoples and support those sectors which are more directly geared to meeting these requirements.

Moreover, the liquidation of the armed bandits is a requisite for peace and tranquillity in our country. Without peace and tranquillity there cannot be economic growth and social development. Without peace there cannot be development.

Soon after the holding of the congress, the overall retransformation of our economic structure began with a view to responding to the priorities that had been outlined. In agriculture, food crop areas in the state sector have been increased. Meanwhile, we are seeking to increase the per hectare yields of export crops. Pastoral production has been introduced in the state agricultural units, with a view not only to supplying the workers but trading as well. Fish farming ponds have been created in many units based on the local know-how and resources. The state agricultural sector has been reorganized with the aim of achieving better management.

At the cooperative level an organizational campaign has been launched with a view to supporting the cooperative unions. Relations with the state sector have been improving, which gives greater support to the cooperatives.

The family and private sectors have begun to receive firm support, namely seeds, spare parts, and equipment. Although these measures do not yet correspond to the requirements, they constitute a step forward that is designed to better equip these two sectors so that they can play the important social role that has been assigned to them in the fight against famine and nakedness.

In industry priority has also been given to the sectors which are more directly involved in the fight against famine and nakedness. Special attention is being given to the industrial branches that have taken part in the production of foodstuffs, clothes, spare parts, and equipment.

During the last 6 months of 1983, enormous efforts have been to import essential commodities designed for the agricultural trading campaign, although we realize that the quantities introduced in the market are still inadequate. The positive results of this action have already been felt in the involvement of the peasants in the increased production.

In order to guarantee the implementation of the priorities outlined by the congress, a broad reorganization of the state apparatus has been carried out in order to better equip it for such priorities and assure correct leadership of the strategic sectors. Dozens of qualified cadres who used to be assigned to the central organs and confined to their offices — often without a specific job to do — have been assigned to economic units. The positive results of this measure have already shown a noticeable improvement in the quality of leadership in various production sectors.

Another decision taken by the congress was to strengthen the party leadership at the local level. A very important measure in this regard has been the appointment of Political Bureau members as leaders of our country's various provinces. The positive results of this measure can already be seen in the political, economic, and social life in those provinces.

Operation Production, which has been launched in accordance with the congress guidelines, has been cheerfully hailed by our people. It constitutes a process designed to rehabilitate thousands of Mozambicans who, for a number of reasons, had run into lawlessness, corruption, and crime. Through their involvement in productive activities these Mozambicans have been transforming themselves into full citizens and men and women integrated in the new society. Operation Production as a whole has been achieving the outlined objectives. The vast majority of the unproductive elements who have been detected by the operation and channeled to the various production areas have already been integrated into their tasks. Operation Production has contributed directly to the reorganization of life in our cities, by freeing them from the outlaws and unproductive people.

In this context, and in the framework of the policy of clemency that has always guided Frelimo in the belief in man and his ability to transform himself through useful and productive work, the Standing Commission of the People's Assembly decided to pardon those citizens who committed a specific type of crime and who are serving jail sentences. This is a generous attitude on the part of our state, and those who have been affected by this law must treasure it. Our people are once again being called upon to cooperate in the reintegration of those citizens into Mozambique society. Their relatives, friends, and the grass-roots organizations have a decisive role to play so that these citizens may feel useful for their fatherland.

The conference for the formation of the Mozambique trade unions constituted an important step in carrying out the objectives outlined by the fourth congress. The Mozambique socialist trade unions are the party's army for the fight against famine and nakedness. They organize the workers to increase production and productivity in all sectors.

Fellow Mozambicans, during 1983 there has been a profound change in the military situation in our country. The reorganization of our Armed Forces, which began last year, has enabled us to launch important offensives against the armed bandits. Countless groups of armed bandits have been destroyed as a result of these offensives. The bandits have been surviving in small gangs, which are continuously pursued by our forces. More than 3,000 armed bandits have either been captured or have surrendered to our forces with their equipment. The quantities of captured war materiel already amounts to dozens of tons. We have begun to reestablish the normal traffic on roads and railway lines. Thousands of citizens who had been in the hands of the armed bandits have been released and are reorganizing their life in freedom.

The work carried out by our party preparing for the fourth congress and in applying its decisions have enabled everybody to clearly understand that the defense of the fatherland is a task of every Mozambican national. The involvement of society as a whole in the tasks of national defense has been growing. The military offensives launched by our soldiers have encouraged the people in the same way as the sound support that the people have given to the soldiers has strengthened their spirit of combat and their ability to annihilate the armed bandits. With great emotion we hail our glorious Mozambique Armed Forces, the local forces, and the people's militia for the victories they have achieved and their example of unselfishness, heroism, discipline, and patriotic dedication in the service of the people and the revolution. [applause] Their determination and involvement in defense of the fatherland are the guarantee of victory of socialism in our country.

Mozambican men and women, our action in the diplomatic field has been based on the application of the principles that have always guided us in our foreign policy. We have been able to establish correct relations with all countries irrespective of their political and social system and on the basis of respect for national sovereignty and territorial integrity, and noninterference in the domestic affairs of the states, equality, reciprocity of benefits, and peaceful solution of conflicts. These foreign policy principles are designed to establish a climate of understanding, peace, cooperation, equality, and justice in international relations. It is on the basis of these conditions that we understand the strengthening of the links of friendship, cooperation, and solidarity with the peoples of the whole world. By applying these principles the People's Republic of Mozambique has gained greater friendship, respect, and prestige and has declared itself as an African, socialist, and nonaligned country.

During the course of this year we have had the honor of receiving in our country high-level state delegations. Moreover, we made state visits to various countries and participated in conferences and summits. These were moments of great political significance, during which we had the opportunity to share knowledge, to strengthen the relations of friendship, and to outline actions for the development of mutually advantageous cooperation. We can

state that in 1983 the Mozambican people and the People's Republic of Mozambique have been able to increase the number of their friends.

As part of the diplomatic offensive that we have launched in the framework of the decisions of the fourth congress, we would like to point out a number of actions that have significantly contributed toward the goals that we have mentioned. The visits we made to the fraternal socialist countries — the Soviet Union, the GDR, and Yugoslavia — and the visits made to Mozambique by the head of state of Romania have been important moments for the strengthening of internationalist solidarity with our natural allies. Our participation in the summits of the OAU and the heads of state and government of the nonaligned countries has contributed to strengthening of unity of the African countries and the anti-imperialist movement.

It was with great honor and happiness that our people hosted the summit of the heads of state and government of the member states of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, an instrument for the liberation and economic independence of the southern African countries. The strengthening of the identity of viewpoints and the arranging of stands have made it possible to improve our strategy for the common struggle we wage against underdevelopment.

During our visit to Western Europe we had the opportunity to convey to the host countries the real image of the People's Republic of Mozambique, its policy, and the aspirations of the Mozambican people. It was our preoccupation to explain in those countries the causes of the problems that we face in our region. We proved that the true destabilizing agent of southern Africa is the apartheid regime, and we explained the nature of our socialist policy of peace, independence, and cooperation with all countries. Our visits to Belgium, Holland, Portugal, France, Britain, and the headquarters of the EEC have strengthened our international prestige, contributed to the isolation of the racist apartheid regime, clearly demonstrated the character of the Mozambican people, and opened paths for the strengthening of cooperation with the West at various levels.

At the Bissau summit, which we attended recently, we realized that the friendship and solidarity among the five countries which suffered the same colonialism have continued to grow stronger through the continuous development of cooperation, which has been extending to various sectors. In Bissau we felt the common spirit of involvement in the building of prosperity for our peoples, a spirit that has always guided us in the difficult but glorious moments of our struggle of national liberation.

With the framework of our policy of peace, good neighborliness, and coexistence with the countries of our region, we have been holding contacts with South African authorities since the end of last year with a view to reducing the tension in the region and defining rules for a normal and peaceful relationship between two neighboring states in the context of the universally accepted principles of coexistence among nations. It is South Africa which has constantly violated these principles, because it has been systematically following a policy of aggression against our people since the time of our struggle for national liberation.

We have reaffirmed to the South African authorities that the establishment of relations of good neighborliness between the People's Republic of Mozambique and the Republic of South Africa necessarily depends on the cessation of the South African support for the armed bandits that the Pretoria regime recruits, trains, finances, supplies, and sends to mount criminal actions against our sovereign state. We have demonstrated that the armed bandits are nothing but an extension of the South African Army. In this context, the People's Republic of Mozambique has been reaffirming the principles of our socialist policy of peace by condemning firmly the apartheid system, the policy of bantustanization, and reiterating our political, diplomatic, and moral support for the African National Congress, which fights for democracy, which fights against racial discrimination, which fights for equality, which fights for a fatherland, which fights so that they may all be South Africans, which fights for equality and harmony between all races in South Africa.

The ANC has been in existence for more than 60 years. It is one of the oldest movements of Africa, and since its foundation it has been struggling for the civil rights of all South African citizens. Due to the nature and objectives of its struggle, the ANC has inspired many African nationalist movements in their struggle for independence. Its leaders have gained the respect of the whole world. Albert Luthuli, first president of the ANC, was distinguished with the Nobel Peace Prize. The campaign for the release of Nelson Mandela has been growing worldwide. He is an esteemed combatant for equality among men and has been condemned to life imprisonment by the apartheid regime. Oliver Tambo is today recognized as a vanguard combatant for the rights of all the South Africans.

The ANC as a whole includes blacks, whites, mulattoes, and Indians, which by itself shows its antiracist nature. Due to the noble objectives for which it has been struggling, the ANC finds itself deeply rooted within the South African masses. It enjoys the esteem of all the peoples of the world. It has been recognized internationally as a movement which struggles for peace, equality, and for the rights of all South Africans to be only South African citizens, instead of being divided into Bantus, whites, mulattoes, and Indians, as apartheid society is today. The ANC represents the aspirations of all South Africans to have a truly free and democratic fatherland. It is for these reasons that the ANC enjoys the unconditional support of all peoples who love peace, social justice, and progress, including the Mozambican people.

Fellow Mozambicans, our efforts to seek a solution for establishing peace in southern Africa are in the framework of the global peace policy of all progressive humankind. It is opposed to the growing imperialist aggression which is evident in the latest developments in the Middle East, the deployment of missiles in Western Europe, the foreign intervention in Grenada, and the continuing invasion and occupation of a part of the terrritory of the People's Republic of Angola.

Mozambican men and women, 1984 will be a decisive year in achieving the objectives outlined by the fourth congress. It is a decisive year for improving the life of our people. We will not solve all our problems in 1984. The success of the fight that we are going to wage in the economic field in 1984 will largely

depend on our strictness in fulfilling the objectives that have been outlined. The State Central Plan for 1984 will include specific guidelines for every sector of activity, clearly stating the priorities and defining the areas where we are going to use the few available resources. We must assure that the provision of production factors is mainly channeled to those areas and that rigidity and efficiency in their use are taken into account.

The resources we possess cost our people immense sacrifices. We must therefore ensure that they are used correctly. Next year we must continue and deepen our policy of austerity, particularly in areas which have a large impact on the expenditure of hard currency, such as the consumption of oil. In 1984 we must continue our austerity measures to improve the control and management of enterprises to make them dynamic and effective.

In the struggle against armed bandits we must consolidate and develop the military offensive now underway until banditry is completely and totally eliminated. In order to achieve these objectives we must continue with the process of reorganizing the Mozambique Armed Forces. Special attention will be given to reorganizing compulsory military service, which must serve as the school where national unity and the patriotism of our generous youth are forged. The involvement of our entire people and of all sectors of society in the defense of the fatherland is a fundamental objective set by the fourth congress. All citizens must receive military training and have a specific task in defending their workplaces and residences. As members of people's militia, we shall embody the principle that the defense of the fatherland is the right and duty of every citizen and every patriot in the struggle to eliminate banditry.

We want to take this opportunity to announce that, within the framework of our party's traditional policy of clemency, the armed bandits who surrender to our authorities with their respective weapons will be forgiven and duly reintegrated into Mozambican society. [applause]

The major successes achieved in the struggle against armed bandits and the positive steps already taken in the economic field enable us to face 1984 with confidence. The conditions already established are a solid foundation so that next year we can safely work to carry out the tasks defined by the fourth congress in the economic, social, and military fields.

Compatriots, Mozambican men and Mozambican women: The tasks which we have set up for the new year constitute a hard, difficult, and complex fight that requires sacrifices and the mobilization of all our talent and all our working and organizational abilities. The Mozambican people are courageous and heroic. They do not retreat before difficulties. They do not hesitate to make sacrifices to defend and build their fatherland.

The year 1984 will be a year for strengthening the patriotic commitment of all citizens. It will be a year of total commitment in the fight against hunger, nakedness, the elimination of armed bandits, and for building a new society.

Our commitment finds its roots in the long and glorious tradition of the struggle of our people. It is nourished by the certainty of victory in the hearts of all Mozambicans. It is constantly strengthened by the justness and humanism of our objectives. The society we are building is one which corresponds to the real aspirations of our people and achieves the legitimate desires of men with equality and justice.

The socialist society that we are building will produce prosperity, well-being, and happiness for all. It is this society that gets rid of misery and poverty. It is this society that eliminates unemployment and transforms every man into a conscious worker who is proud of his role and of his contribution to collective work. In the socialist society, every child has a home, a hospital, a creche, and a school. He has the chance to grow up healthy and become a citizen who is useful and devoted to his people. The society we are building promotes peace, tranquillity, and social justice. It is this society which loves life, liberty, and fraternal coexistence of men of all colors and races — a society which respects, defends, and develops the highest values of humanity. It is a society which fights crime, disorder, outlaws, and social indiscipline, and creates a climate where the life and legitimate activity of the citizen is protected and respected. It is a society where every one reaps the harvest he helps to create in the just measure by which he contributes his intelligence, his work, and his efforts. The society we are building has its foundations in friendship, fraternity, and love. It is a society where man and human dignity — human life — are the fundamental values. It is a society that values mutual respect and solidarity among members of the same big family — the Mozambican nation. These are the values, the values of socialism, which mobilize our people. They are the values for which we accept sacrifices, destroy barriers, and overcome difficulties. It is for them that we render our effort, because our effort will give our children a more human life, a happier world, and a more brilliant future.

By removing barriers, overcoming difficulties, and marching with determination, we feel the certainty that each year that passes is a step forward that we climb in the glorious task of building our socialist fatherland, and that every new year is a challenge that we shall win.

It is in this spirit of enthusiasm, commitment, and certainty of victory that we greet with joy and emotion all Mozambican men and Mozambican women on the occasion marking the end of 1983 and the beginning of a new year. To all of you we wish happy celebrations and good health, success, and happiness in 1984. [applause]

Our particular greetings go to foreign-aid workers who celebrate the new year with the big Mozambican family. May the warmth of our friendship and solidarity make up in part for their absence from their families. To all of them and their families we wish happy celebrations and a happy and prosperous new year of 1984.

Mozambican men and Mozambican women, let us make 1984 the year that armed banditry is eliminated and our economy takes off dramatically.

Happy celebrations and a Happy New Year to you all.

The struggle continues. Thank you very much, friends. [applause]

Communique Condemns RSA Angola Incursion

MB060609 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Communique issued by the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique in Maputo on 5 January 1983]

[Text] The Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique has been noting with profound anxiety the recent escalation of criminal aggression perpetrated by the nazi-fascist regime of Pretoria against the sovereign territory of the People's Republic of Angola from occupied areas of the Angolan territory and illegally-occupied Namibia. This new escalation of aggression confirms the true intentions of the Pretoria regime and runs directly contrary to efforts by the Government of the People's Republic of Angola and the international community to seek a peaceful solution of the prevailing conflict in southern Africa. It also runs against the spirit and letter of the South African proposal for the withdrawal of its troops from Angola. This new wave of violence launched by the apartheid regime comes at a time when the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, the armed wing of the Angolan people, is engaged in a fully military offensive against UNITA, a puppet movement in the pay of the minority regime of South Africa.

In view of these acts of aggression which aggravate the explosive situation in southern Africa and puts the region's peace and stability at risk, the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique has officially informed the diplomatic representatives of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council accredited to Maputo of the extreme gravity of this situation. It has appealed to them to use all the means at their disposal to end this flagrant violation of the norms of international law which constitutes a grave threat to the sovereignty of an independent country that is a full member of the United Nations.

The Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique vehemently condemns these acts of aggression and demands the cessation of aggressions and the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the South African regular army from the sovereign territory of the People's Republic of Angola, and reiterates its commitment to the urgent application of UN Resolution 435 as the only viable option for the independence of Namibia.

The Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique considers it a matter of urgency that the international community take concerted action to force the expansionist regime of South Africa to withdraw itself from the Angolan territory. The Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique expresses its militant solidarity with the Government of the People's Republic of Angola in view of the acts of aggression it has suffered, and conveys its profound condolences to the victims of the barbarous attacks by the racist army of South Africa.

The struggle continues.

Maputo, 5 January 1983.

AIM Reports 5 Killed by 'Bandits' in Gaza

MB051926 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] The Mozambique news agency AIM has published details of the Christmas Eve massacre of five villagers in Gaza Province by the South African-backed quizumba [hyena] bandits. AIM spoke to an eyewitness who works in Maputo but had returned to visit his family, four of whom were butchered in the atrocity.

The people of (Maringua), in Manjacaze District, 220 km northeast of Maputo, were holding a Christmas party when the bandits arrived, at about 1430 in the afternoon. About 50 bandits ordered the villagers to gather in one place while the bandit commanders interrogated anyone who worked in Maputo. The commanders spoke in Ndau, a language from the central province of Manica, and were in uniform. The rank-and-file bandits were in civilian clothes and spoke the local language, Shangaan. The commanders demanded to know who were the local members of the Frelimo Party, but the people refused to tell them. The bandits then produced a list of individuals they wanted, and three of them were taken aside. Three other villagers, one of them a woman, were also picked out because they were suspected of having undergone military training. The bandits attacked all six with a hammer and then murdered five of them with ax blows to the back of their heads. The horrified villagers were forced to watch as the bandits decapitated three of the victims and stuck their heads on poles. The bandits left the village 4 hours after they arrived, warning the people that anyone who tried to bury the bodies would be killed. One of the villagers went to Manjacaze town to seek help.

A week after the massacre the bodies of the victims had still not been buried.

MNR Issues Communique on 'Red Summer' Campaign

MB051700 (Clandestine) Voice of Mozambique National Resistance in Portuguese 1700 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Communique on "Red Summer" campaign issued by the Headquarters of the Mozambique National Resistance — place and date not given]

[Text] The Mozambique National Resistance announces that it has launched a new and extensive offensive — the largest to date — against the government communist troops all over the country. A warning is hereby given to foreign governments and enterprises to immediately withdraw their workers operating on Mozambique territory. We cannot be held responsible for what may happen to them in the operational areas.

Two large-scale military offensives were launched by our forces in August and September 1983. Enormous successes were achieved by our forces despite the drought, adverse weather, and difficult terrain.

After the first rains, a huge force of men and weapons were put into action by the guerrilla forces in the great "Red Summer" campaign. This caused an immediate intensification of the number of operations, on a scale that had not previously been achieved

in the struggle our people have been waging since 1976 against the Samora Machel regime. The following are the first results of the "Red Summer" Campaign.

Niassa Province: On 23 December the Mecanhelas District commissioner was shot dead when our combatants ambushed an enemy column on the Cuamba-Mecanhelas road. A total of 15 Frelimo soldiers were also killed and 16 automatic rifles captured. Our combatants also captured a number of party documents and destroyed a military vehicle.

Nampula Province: On 8 December our combatants sabotaged the Nacala-(Munar) railway line between Ribaue and Malema in Avarra.

Zambezia Province: On 9 December our forces destroyed a 9-meter section of the Quelimane-Mocuba railway line in (Nhazigumbane). On 14 December the same railway line was sabotaged once again in the Funganha area. An 18-meter section of the railway line was destroyed. On 15 December our combatants staged an ambush on the Maganja da Costa-Malei road, destroying a military Land Rover. On 18 December our combatants staged an ambush on the Gurue-Mutuali road in (Murua), destroying a military personnel carrier. Crimes by the communist troops: On 22 and 23 December MIG-17 airplanes of the Frelimo Air Force bombed the residents near the town of Maganja da Costa.

Tete Province: On 15 December our forces attacked the enemy position at (Cumbei). The enemy fled, leaving materiel on the battlefield. Crimes by the communist troops: On 13 December troops of the criminal Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique came from Moatize and fired on the residents of Carambo area and burned a number of houses.

Manica Province: As was previously reported, on 11 December our combatants attacked and occupied the town of Dombe, one of the districts capitals of Manica Province. A total of 14 Frelimo soldiers were killed during the operation. Our forces destroyed two Soviet-made armored vehicles and three other military vehicles. A total of 23 automatic rifles and 3 bazookas were captured by our forces. On 17 December Frelimo troops tried to recapture the town and the military base at Dombe, but were repelled. A total of 116 automatic rifles, 3 RPG-2's, flamethrowers, and a heavy machine gun were captured. Frelimo troops suffered an additional nine dead during this action. A total of seven buildings in the town were destroyed during the fighting. A Soviet-made T-54 tank and one military personnel carrier were burned by our forces. The town of Dombe is still being held by our combatants.

Sofala Province: On 17 December our heroic forces attacked and captured the town of (Boione) in Buzi. The Frelimo military base in the area was totally destroyed and our forces captured one 75-mm cannon and 25 shells, among other materiel. On the same day the valiant RNM combatants attacked and captured the town and military base of Metuchira, destroying Frelimo troops installations. Large quantities of weapons were captured. On 22 December, following an impetuous advance by our glorious forces, the town and the important military base of Semacueza fell in our hands. The Frelimo military installations were completely destroyed. Semacueza was one of the main positions on the defense line for the city of Beira. A total of 45 AK-47's, 4 heavy machine guns, 3 bazookas, 40 boxes of ammunition, and 40 bazooka shells were captured. Our forces killed 17 Frelimo soldiers and captured 2 others.On 23 December the district capital Chemba, and the Frelimo base there were attacked by our forces. A total of four automatic weapons were captured and our combatants destroyed the Frelimo military installations. A B-10 cannon was captured by our forces and a total of five Frelimo soldiers, enemies of the people, were killed and one captured. Other installations in the town of Chemba were destroyed during the attack. Crimes by the communist troops: On 25 December a number of helicopters of the criminal communist troops strafed residents near the town of Chemba, murdering 4 people and wounding more than 20 of them. Inhambane Province: National Road No 1 has been cut in a number of areas in this province, placing it under our control. A total of six vehicles which attempted to travel along the route have been destroyed over the past 2 weeks. Gaza Province: On 24 November our forces attacked the enemy base at Maqueze. On 1 December our forces captured an armed Frelimo soldier in the (Gumbane) area. On 5 December our glorious forces clashed with Frelimo troops in the (Langoro) area, capturing one RPD weapon and an AK-47 magazine. A total of 2 Frelimo soldiers were killed and several others wounded during the operation. Maputo Province: On 21 December our heroic combatants attacked and captured the important Frelimo base at Panjane, situated a few dozen kilometers from the capital, Maputo. All the military installations were destroyed and our forces killed an additional three enemies of the people during this attack. Large quantities of war materiel were captured. Crimes by the communist troops: On 13 December,(?Nero), the criminal commander of the Frelimo troops stationed at Mavila, murdered a local woman with his AKM weapon. [Music]

Several soldiers and commanders who have been deceived by Machel's communist army have been fleeing their posts and barracks over the past weeks. They either return to their houses or surrender to our combatants. All of them have already realized that Frelimo has lost the war. They refuse to oppose their people and do not want to die. They have already noticed that this summer will be — and in fact has already begun to be — really red because our offensive will not spare anyone. We will severely punish the Frelimo murderers, enemies of the people. The offensive against them will continue to get stronger.

The struggle continues.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO's Manning Denies RSA Bombing Claims

MB051216 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1600 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Report on interview with SWAPO Information Secretary Peter Manning by phone from London, conducted by reporter Nigel Wrench; date not given]

[Text][Wrench] SWAPO denied today that any of its guerrillas have been injured or killed in the latest South African incursion into Angola. The South African forces have been on a new

incursion in southern Angola since early last month. Last week, Defense Force chief Constand Viljoen said South African forces had destroyed a SWAPO base near Lubango in Angola. At the weekend the South African Defense Force said it had killed 56 guerrillas so far in the raid. SWAPO Information Secretary Peter Manning vehemently denied the charges:

[Begin recording] [Manning] It is simply not true. We received a communique over the weekend from our (?principal) headquarters in Luanda which told us that not even a single SWAPO person has been injured in the recent bombing attacks — simply because there were no Namibians in the area that the South African planes bombed.

[Wrench] Are you, then, denying the South African Defense Force statement last week that it had bombed a SWAPO headquarters in southern Angola?

[Manning] Yes, we are denying that they bombed any SWAPO settlements or that there were any Namibians involved in those bombing raids. They certainly did bomb in Lubango, but they had bombed Angolan positions and Angolan installations.

[Wrench] The Defense Force says its raids have severely hampered the SWAPO annual incusions into northern Namibia. Are you saying this raid will now go ahead?

[Manning] We have always taken the position that until such time as there is a cease-fire in terms of Resolution 435, we will continue to escalate the armed struggle, and this will be part of it.

[Wrench] The Defense Force is maintaining, in spite of Angolan claims to the contrary, that its incursion into southern Angola is aimed against SWAPO. Your comment on that?

[Manning] The (?thrust of) the South African aggression shows that it is against Angolan military, economic, and civilian targets, and not against SWAPO. SWAPO is fighting in Namibia, and if they want to get at our forces they should do so there. It is an excuse on the part of the South African regime for an invasion of Angola.

[Wrench] There were reports this morning that Angola had agreed in principle to a 1-month truce with South Africa, but on the condition that all South African troops withdraw from Angola, and also that Pretoria initiate the process of independence for Namibia within 15 days of the truce beginning. What is SWAPO's attitude toward this kind of truce? Will it agree with Angola?

[Manning] It is SWAPO's long-established position that we accept, and are ready to begin, the implementation of Resolution 435. Basically, what the Angolan offer is, is that that resolution be implemented. So, the crux of (?the matter is) any cease-fire (?relating) to Namibia has to be one that (?constitutes) the first step in the implementation of the United Nations plan for elections in Namibia; and it is, therefore, acceptable to us, providing that the implementation of Resolution 435 follows immediately. [end recording]

SOUTH AFRICA

Foreign Minister Botha Responds to Soviet Demands

MB060634 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, has said in his reaction to the latest Soviet demands over the South African military presence in the south of Angola that South Africa has already addressed the issues raised by the Soviet Union, and that he has no further comment. The Soviet demands were made through the official news agency, TASS. The Soviet Union demanded the withdrawal of South African troops from Angola, and called for urgent and concerted international action to remove what it described as the South African threat to neighboring countries.

Earlier, when he confirmed that talks on the conflict situation in Angola had been held between representatives of the Soviet Union and South Africa in May [as heard], Mr Botha said it had been put to the Soviet Union clearly that South Africa would not be intimidated by threats. South Africa had said that although an escalation in the conflict situation in Angola would be in the interests of neither South Africa nor the Soviet Union, South Africa would protect its security interests from threats from any quarter.

During a Security Council debate on the situation in Angola, the South African permanent representative at the United Nations, Mr Kurt von Schirnding, stressed that South Africa had no desire to control Angolan territory. He said the security operations in Angola were aimed against SWAPO.

UN Debate on RSA Angolan Incursion Viewed

MB060733 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Text] The debate in the Security Council of the United Nations on the conflict in Angola has been referred without a vote having been taken on a proposal condemning South Africa for its present military operation in southern Angola. The draft resolution calls for sanctions to be imposed against South Africa unless it withdraws its forces unconditionally. The resolution is unacceptable to the United States and Britain, and, according to Security Council officials, is also creating problems for France, the third Western permanent member of the Security Council. The debate is to be resumed at 1800 South African time this evening, when a vote will probably be taken.

The Security Council convened on Wednesday for an urgent meeting at the request of Angola. Earlier yesterday evening a letter from the leader of SWAPO, Sam Nujoma, was handed to the secretary general, Dr Perez de Cuellar, in which Nujoma asked him to arrange a cease-fire between its forces and South Africa, through direct talks. Until now, South Africa has refused to negotiate directly with SWAPO. SWAPO's request corresponds with the Angolan demand for South African forces to leave Angola.

Meanwhile, the Angolan ambassador to the United Nations, Mr de Figueiredo, has said that Cuban troops have not been involved in the fighting in the South African security operation in southern Angola. Mr de Figueiredo, however, said at a news conference in New York that his government reserved the right to call for military help from other countries, including Cuba. Asked to define the mission of the Cubans in Angola, he declined and said he was not a military expert.

It is reported from Lusaka that President Kaunda of Zambia has received a special message from President dos Santos of Angola. Details of the message are not known.

Ministry Declines Comment

MB061104 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1059 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Text] Pretoria, Jan 6, SAPA — South Africa today declined to comment on a call by the SWAPO leader, Mr Sam Nujoma, for direct talks with the republic on a cease-fire between the two warring parties, saying it wanted to study the SWAPO statement first.

"The minister of foreign affairs is still waiting for the full text of the SWAPO statement and for the report on the issue from his ambassador to the United Nations.

"Until such time as he has studied this document, he cannot make any comment," a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry said this morning.

Three SADF Men Killed in Anti-SWAPO Operations

MB060726 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Text] Defense headquarters has announced in Pretoria that three more members of the Defense Force have died in security operations against SWAPO terrorists in southern Angola. They were 19-year-old rifleman (George Alexander Lennox), who is survived by his father, Mr (D.V. Lennox), of Brandfort, and his mother, Mrs (Rawl), of Bloemfontein; Rifleman (Brian Geen), aged 18, who is survived by his parents, Mr and Mrs (C.L. Geen), of Roodekranz, Roodepoort; and Rifleman (Peter Daniel Pretorius), who was aged 20, and is survived by his parents, Mr and Mrs (P.D. Pretorius), of Wonderboom in Pretoria. The Defense Force spokesman confirmed that 17 members of the Defense Force have so far died in the security operations in southern Angola.

UDF Raps Labor Party Decision on Constitution

MB060904 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0700 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Text] The South African Labor Party has come under attack by the United Democratic Front for deciding to participate in the new constitution. UDF Publicity Secretary Terror Lekota:

[Begin recording] The Labor Party's decision to join ranks with the Nationalist Party and impose the new constitution act on the people of South Africa is a crime which some day they will be called upon to account for. The allegation that the UDF would intimidate the people in the event of a referendum does not only expose the Labor Party's lack of confidence in the masses of our people, but it is also an attempt to undermine the people's confidence in the leadership of the UDF. But we of the UDF are confident that democratic South Africans of all races will continue to support our campaign against this dictatorial constitution. [end recording]

ZAMBIA

Angola's Da Moura Gives Kaunda Dos Santos Message

MB051520 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 5 Jan 84

[Text] His excellency the president, Dr Kenneth Kaunda, has received a special message from his Angolan counterpart. The message was delivered by Angolan Vice Foreign Minister Venancio da Moura. Mr da Moura was accompanied by Angolan ambassador to Zambia, Zambian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs (Otima Musuka), and Zambia's ambassador to Angola, Boniface Zulu. Dr Kaunda, who is currently on his New Year holiday at (Chichele Lodge) in Mfue, said Mr da Moura's coming had not disturbed his rest at all.

Receiving the message, the president hailed the good relationship between Zambia and Angola, but no details of the message were released. Mr da Moura has since returned to Luanda.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Reacts to New Nigerian Government

AB050800 Lagos NAN in English 0720 GMT 5 Jan 84

[By Adewale Fantona]

[Text] Harare, Jan 4 (NAN) — The prime minister of Zimbabwe, Robert Mugabe, yesterday in Harare said that Zimbabwe would respect the new military administration of General Muhammadu Buhari, "if the change of government is the wish of Nigerians."

Mr Mugabe said that although he was surprised at the coup which toppled the government of Alhaji Shehu Shagari, Zimbabwe had no intention of interfering in the affairs of Nigeria, which he described as Zimbabwe's "big brother."

The prime minister, who was answering a question by the Harare correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) at a news conference, said that his government was still watching developments in Nigeria. "Though Zimbabwe was not in favour of coups, we would respect their government," he said.

In an editorial, the pro-government *HERALD* newspaper said today that the coup that toppled the Shagari administration had been unexpected.

Ian Smith on Intimidation of RF Party Officials
MB051535 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1615 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Interview with Ian Smith on his farm in Zimbabwe by Peter Godwin; date not given — recorded]

[Excerpt][Godwin] As to the future of the Republican Front [RF] as a party, some say that since it seems to be losing sway to a certain extent towards a new political group called the Independents, you do not actually have a party as such. Does this mean that the RF is on the way out. Would you agree with that assessment?

[Smith] No, I would say to you I think this is wishful thinking on the part of our political opponents. But one has to be realistic: We have got tremendous problems. It is being made more and more difficult for the RF to operate. The government is opposed to us. They are putting obstacles in our way because we are not yes-men like the so-called group of Independents. Many of my RF committees in Northern Mashonaland have resigned en bloc and sent me a letter saying that they have come to the conclusion that in the interests of the safety of themselves, and especially their families, they just cannot be seen to be associated with the RF. There are people there, for example, who have had a knock on the door; secret police have arrived — plainclothes, secret police, call them what you will — the first question was: We hear you are a committee member of the RF; and when the reply was yes, these people were taken in and locked up for a weekend. You have only got to do that to a few people;then the ripple effect goes right through an area. So our political framework, I must say to you, has collapsed because of this blatant intimidation on the part of the government. We believe that where the government makes mistakes — and let us be honest, everybody in this world makes mistakes — we must draw this to their attention and try to correct it. For that reason they are trying to virtually intimidate us out of existence.